

# CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE

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No. 7

## Message of Nathan Straus to National Congress of Mothers.

"I NEED hardly tell you how earnestly I approve of your stand that 'it is more vitally important to save the lives of children than to conserve the hog industry, crops or timber.' It is the growing appreciation of this fact that is gradually reducing the infant death rate and decreasing sickness among the babies. My own work during the past twenty-three years has taught me how much can be done and how much there is yet to do to give every baby born in the world a chance to live, and I frequently rejoice in the work that your nation-wide organization is doing to arouse the people of the land to the duty and privilege of protecting babyhood."

## The President's Desk

### THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON THE WELFARE OF THE CHILD

THE programme for the Third International Congress on Child-Welfare promises great variety. The conferences are open to delegates. Under the rules that will govern the Congress there will be opportunity for the delegates to participate. Among the speakers who have already accepted are: Dr. Helen C. Putnam, Providence, R. I.; Dr. Maximilian Groszmann, Plainfield, N. J.; Miss Ping Su, official delegate appointed by the Chinese Government; Miss Anne Morgan, New York; Dr. M. V. O'Shea, Madison, Wisconsin; Honorable John M. Patterson, Philadelphia; Mr. Bernard J. Newman, Philadelphia; Mrs. R. P. Alexander, Japan.

The programme as completed will appear in the April issue of the MAGAZINE. It is important that every circle that can do so should send its quota of delegates. The inspiration received will carry the work forward more than can possibly be done by reading the reports afterwards.

The conferences held by the Mothers' Congress are not conferences where

people come to talk and to listen to papers and then leave; every subject on the programme is placed there because it is a subject of vital interest in this country and in other countries. It is discussion with the earnest purpose of promoting the best conditions for the children. Great interest is expressed everywhere in the coming conference.

The Government of the United States has given valuable aid to the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations in extending a knowledge of this convention throughout the world. Until the Congress opens it is impossible to know how many countries will be represented, but from the acceptances we feel sure that the convention will be representative in every sense.

The opening of the Congress will be on the evening of Wednesday, April 22, when it is hoped there will be representatives from many nations. There will be a conference of local and State presidents, on methods of organization and plans of work. The sessions April 23 and 24 will be given to The Home and Child-Welfare. A reception will be given by Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, at the White House, at two P.M., April 23. It is the intention to have round-table conferences as much as possible, without long addresses. The Department of Hygiene will have an entire session, which will cover the Government's interest in baby-saving, the physician's work and the work of the mothers, education of girls for home-making and education of boys for home-makers. A round table will cover Sane Eugenics, parental duty as related to world life and world needs. This will give opportunity for the delegates who have been appointed from other countries to participate in this important subject. Protection of boyhood and protection of girlhood are among the topics. Another round table will cover the topics, Training Children for Self-support, Responsibility in Training for Marriage, Home-making and Good Citizenship.

The Saturday session is outlined to cover round tables on co-operation of parents in school house-keeping, equalizing the definite functions of home and school in child nurture, school credit for home work, social life of school children, the social centre, vocational training for boys and girls, prevention of truancy and waywardness, kindergartens as part of the school system, equal opportunities for country children as to school plant, teachers and courses of study, married women as teachers, lack of women in school administration weakens school system.

Sunday will be given to Church and Child-Welfare. The topics to be considered are: The functions of the Church in spiritual guidance, Methods that may increase the ability of the Church in exercising its functions, Parents' associations in Churches, Teachers for parents' associations, Teaching parents their fundamental responsibility in spiritual development of the children, Teaching reverence to little children, The Church's duty in definite training of youth concerning marriage, Wider uses for Church buildings.

Monday, April 27, will be given to State and Child-Welfare: Health protection by the State and nation, The State's provision for the homeless, erring and defective children, The Government's work for the home and family.

**RACE  
BETTERMENT  
CONGRESS AT  
BATTLE CREEK,  
MICHIGAN**

A RACE BETTERMENT CONGRESS was held at Battle Creek in January. In a call for the meeting it was stated that it was the first Race Betterment Congress that had ever been held. It may be true that it was the first conference which had ever been held under that title. It could not be truly stated that it was the first race betterment congress. The Congress of Mothers has for seventeen years worked for race betterment through better opportunities for the prenatal care of the babies, baby-saving, and the physical and moral care of the children. If that is not "race betterment," what is it?

The educators of the country have met for fifty years considering the education of children, and as the years have passed have given even more attention to the special needs of the different kinds of children. This is surely for race betterment.

The American Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality has the same object in view. The interest now in better opportunities for children and through them the development of higher standards of humanity, is universal. Out of it all progress must come.

**PARENTS'  
EDUCATIONAL  
UNION**

THE Parents' National Educational Union holds its eighteenth annual convention in London, March 9-11. The presidents of the Union are their excellencies the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen; the subject is "The Bringing Up and Growing Up: The Parents' Problem of Law and Liberty." Among the different topics considered will be The Vocation of Fatherhood, Seed Time, and The Need of Imagination in Daily Life. The Hon. Mrs. Franklin will give the valedictory address. A fee of 3 s. 6 d. is charged for season tickets. The founder of the Union is Miss Charlotte Mason.

**CHILD SUICIDES**

"DEAR MOTHER: I don't seem to be able to get along in this world, so I am running away. I have taken the \$2.50 gold piece and will meet you in the next world." This was the message a sorrowing mother read when her ten-year-old boy disappeared. The child was despondent because he could not keep up with his lessons in school.

So frequent have become the suicides of children and of youth, that it is a subject for thought of parents and teachers to learn why life has brought such sorrow to them. The heartaches and trials of children are often laughed at, as hardly worth noticing, yet to them the sorrow is very real, and looms up as a cloud that darkens all the sky. Often children are slow to confide their trials to parents or older people, dreading ridicule or lack of sympathy. Nothing closes a child's lips quicker than to experience that. If we only knew how teasing in thoughtless fun is taken seriously, we could never do it. A young woman recalling her childish griefs can never forget the agony she suffered because the family physician told her when he came that he was going to take her baby brother away, nor when a man thinking it funny told her he would throw her into the well. Both threats were made in fun, but to her childish mind they were earnest and caused her days of fear and anxiety.

The pressure of school work weighs very heavily on some children, and to fail spells disgrace more than they can endure.

In one university in a single week three students recently took their own lives, giving no reason for it. They passed out of life with hearts burdened with griefs they shared with no one, yet to them they were tragedies.

There are lessons for all parents and teachers in these oft-recurring suicides of children. The retention of the confidence of children is of first importance, and only through sympathy can that relation be established and maintained. How little do many parents know of their children's inner life and thoughts!

The resolution never to tease a child or make threats with intention of executing them should be made by all who have the care of children. The childish mind does not distinguish or realize the difference between so-called fun and facts.

The pressure of school work should not be permitted. It is far better to let a child drop into a lower class if necessary than to push him beyond his strength.

Fear of parents and of teachers where they show severity and do not show the sympathy that most of them really feel is a dark shadow over many children and its gravity is not realized by the parent or teacher. Punishment or threats

of punishment have driven many children to suicide or running away from home.

The love is there, but has not been expressed and the child does not know that he is loved, for he only hears correction and punishment.

The lack of a spirit of comradeship closes the child's revelation of himself to his parents, and often while living under the same roof they are utterly ignorant of the thoughts of their own children. Love must be expressed in words and deeds all along the years to safeguard sensitive children from the temptation of suicide. They must know that some one cares for them and loves them, that whatever happens, from father and mother, they can look for love, and that corrections will be given in love.

Sunshine and joy are as necessary to the child's spirit as to his body. To think and plan for his pleasures as well as for his work is the duty of father, mother and teacher. Child suicides are a reflection on our system of child guardianship and education. "A joyous childhood for every child" is the slogan Dr. Claxton, Commissioner of Education, would like to see adopted in every home and school.

**WOMEN'S  
FREEDOM  
RESTRICTED**

It is frequently a surprise to those who have planned legislation which is designed to be helpful to learn that the results of such legislation are not what has been expected. The *Public Ledger* of Philadelphia, in the following editorial, shows what the effect has been from the law made to prevent women from working long hours with a view to health protection:

LEGISLATING WOMEN OUT OF A LIVELIHOOD

"If the women who sell subway tickets lose their occupation they may thank the Pennsylvania Legislature. In its zeal to help women workers the State lawmakers restricted the hours of toil in such a way that in some cases it is now cheaper to employ man labor.

"Here is a concrete result of too much paternalism. It is not possible in a day for any artificial law, however wisely drawn, to overcome all the natural laws of thousands of years. So it is not sound economic sense that a woman doing certain manual labor can receive quite as much pay as a man, for the reason that on the average the woman cannot produce quite the same results.

"This bears no relation to women's political rights or their social privileges. It is a question solely of their competing in physical labor with men. Every possible safeguard should be thrown around those women who are obliged to work, but it is manifestly wrong to legislate them into a position they cannot maintain.

"Making iron-bound laws which meddle with human occupations is a serious business, for there is far more opportunity for self-seeking demagogues to inflict more harm than all the philanthropists may correct.

"It is rather surprising to note at this day when women are seeking freedom and equal rights with men, that it should have become necessary to enact legislation which takes away that freedom from women and places them at such disadvantage in competing for work, that many of them have been forced out of their occupations. In many of the small towns in Pennsylvania women have been employed as agents in the stations along the routes of the railroads. Because of this law all of them have lost their positions. It is usually safer to let those who are affected by it initiate legislation which concerns them than to have others who are not affected by it plan and carry through such legislation. No one wishes to have women subjected to hardship, but while women



must earn their living, as few handicaps as possible should be put in the way of it, and individual freedom must always be respected. This legislation carries a lesson which all who are interested in legislation should remember."

**PARENTS  
AND THEIR  
PROBLEMS**

It is not the policy of the Congress to endorse any subscription books other than its own "Parents and Their Problems," and it has not, as a body, ever given any such endorsement. The effectiveness of the mother work, and the wide-spread knowledge and endorsement of the Congress, makes its approbation of great value, and agents for books have frequently misused the name. All members should welcome the appearance of our own books, designed especially for the needs of home and school and should give our agents an opportunity to fully explain them even when the privilege of buying them must be foregone for the present. Each member should be able to tell of the helpfulness of "Parents and Their Problems."

THE following advice from Benjamin Franklin, written in 1737, is just as applicable to the people of 1914, and if parents and teachers would make it a part of the ethical culture in the home and school a permanent foundation for sane character-building would result:

"At this time when the general complaint is that money is scarce, it will be an act of kindness to inform the moneyless how they may re-enforce their pockets. I will acquaint them with the true secret of money catching, the certain way to fill empty purses, and how to keep them always full. Two simple rules, well observed will do the business.

"First, let honesty and industry be thy constant companions; and,

"Secondly, spend one penny less than thy clear gains.

"Then shall thy hide-bound pocket soon begin to thrive.

"Neither will creditors insult thee, nor want oppress, nor hunger bite, nor nakedness freeze thee. The whole hemisphere will shine brighter, and

pleasure spring up in every corner of thy heart. Now, therefore, embrace these rules and be happy. Banish the bleak winds of sorrow from thy mind, and live independent. Then shalt thou be a man, and not hide thy face at the approach of the rich, nor suffer the pain of feeling little when the sons of fortune walk at thy right hand; for independency, whether with a little or much, is good fortune and placeth thee on even ground with the proudest of the golden fleece. Oh, then, be wise and let industry walk with thee in the morning, and attend thee until thou reachest the evening hour of rest.

"Let honesty be as the breath of thy soul, and never forget to have a penny when all thy expenses are enumerated and paid, then thou shalt reach the point of happiness, and independence shall be thy shield and buckler, thy helmet and crown; then shall thy soul walk upright, nor stoop to the silken wretch because he hath riches, nor pocket an abuse because the hand which offers it wears a ring set with diamonds."

## The Child in Music

By MRS. FRANCES E. CLARK

MUSIC is a language, and like language must be learned by hearing. A child hears language all about him from birth. When the organs of speech have grown sufficiently strong the child begins to talk, using at first the words of most significance in physical life, family relations and environments. Speech develops rapidly, until at four he has a vocabulary of perhaps five hundred words picked up by simply hearing them used in connection with his experience. The music sense awakens later than the language sense, ordinarily at three and a half or four, in musical environment oftentimes at two.

If the child may hear music all about him exactly as he has heard language, he will come to know music and use it in some way to express himself, just as he uses language. In what way may the child express his understanding of the music he hears, or what part of the music may he express?

It is a curious fact that the musical experiences of a child seem to be in part an epitome of the music history of the race. We know that the ancient Greeks held music in high esteem, but music with them included history, literature, poetry and the dance. "The nine Muses were one family." The earliest music was that of the crooning lullaby of the savage mother to her babe, as mothers have used it since the world began.

Then came the rude instruments of percussion, the drums or toms-toms. The child takes himself through this stage in his first year with his rattles and his desires to pound with everything he gets in his hands. Then came the horns and pipes, and the child is faithful to the analogy in his whistles and tooting horns.

History next gave us the strings, the lutes, and lyres, and harps and early bowed instruments, which, improved, have come down to us. Now our child will early imitate the sound

of singing and if he may only hear a great deal of the music of the descendants of these primitive instruments, he will try to imitate their rhythmic qualities in bodily expressions.

The Folk Song and the Folk Dance grew up together. At first they were one and the same. All song was accompanied with rhythmic bodily expression, hand clapping, etc., and all the dances or rhythmic games were sung. We have kept this relation in the familiar singing games of the kindergarten, rural play parties and the playground, but have lost it in nearly every other direction, save in opera.

There has now come a revival of Folk Dances, and we are substituting them to great advantage for the old heavy calisthenics, but these do not go down far enough into the beginnings of child life. Miss Alys Bently, of Washington, D. C., is working out a most beautiful idea in teaching music to very little children, they to translate into motor-activity. She has classes of little Montessorri children three and a half and four years of age, who have come to recognize instantly over forty different melodies, and interpret immediately into rhythmic expression. When they hear the duck song they are at once ducks. The first note of the bear melody induces the bear walk—a Chopin Nocturne means another thing—Frühlingslied (Henselt), a Spring Song, and all are butterflies—and they march, run, skip, hop, walk, gallop as the music bids. Miss Bently uses only the best music with strong rhythmic quality and I believe has solved the problem of the music education of the little child in the home before the Kindergarten age in the most thoroughly pedagogic and sensible manner yet presented; namely, in the hearing over and over again the classics of great music and the interpretation into motor, rhythmic activity. These are often hummed also or sung with LOO or LA.

In the early days of school music, sight-reading was the only aim, since the movement grew out of the old-fashioned singing school; but Supervisors long since learned that music must first be heard—then analyzed. "Wholes before parts" is an unbreakable law of modern pedagogy. We used to teach notes and staff, bars, measures and note-reading in the first grade. Now this can only be found in a few benighted places.

Everywhere "Wholes before parts" is being emphasized and the fact recognized and impressed that the child must hear *music*, real music itself in great abundance, long before he should be asked to deal with facts or theories *about* music. If he may so hear good music, express the fundamental element of rhythm with his own body, hum lightly the melodies, in early childhood, long before anyone dreams of his actual study of music; he will bring to this study when the time comes, the same rich heritage of concepts, ideas, familiarity and real use, that he took to his study of reading with his vocabulary of 500 words learned in the home.

The child should bring to his definite music study a real knowledge of at least 100 selections of good music learned in the home and Kindergarten.

To begin to teach a child notes, staff, clef, bars, five-finger exercises, scales and chords, before he has heard real music is exactly the same thing as it would be to shut a child up in a

deaf and dumb asylum from birth, and at six years of age bring him out and present him with a primer and bid him read, never having heard language itself.

A normal child learns to read with amazing rapidity in these later days of improved teaching. He is shown a word or sentence picture of the thing, idea or expression he already knows, only another form, presented to the eye, of a concept which has entered his mind long before through the ear gate.

A child masters the process of learning to read in two or three years, sometimes in one, thereafter he simply enlarges his vocabulary and proceeds to read to learn.

In exactly the same way the process of reading music can be taught in half the time we now devote to it, indeed it may be said that we could easily teach all of the technic of music reading in one or two years that we now do in eight, if it may be presented in the same logical way, first hearing, next using, in bodily rhythmic expression, then singing, and last of all studying the printed form.

Music, good music, should be heard in great abundance by every child, then it is only pleasure to study about the music he already knows.

Theory and technic is easily grasped if the mind is filled with the real image. Any system that does not recognize this is pedagogically and inherently wrong.

### Motherhood

I never see a mother with her baby—  
The simple garb unconscious of itself,  
The soft and yielding contours of her  
    breast,  
Drooping to meet the touch of tiny lips;  
The full and rounded outlines of her form,  
The face, faint pencilled with the marks  
    of care,  
Yet shining in her eyes th' exultant deeps  
Of rapture that has paid the price of pain;  
Spirit and body consecrate alike

To the far purposes of motherhood—  
But that there flashes on my inner sight  
The marvel of the seed-time, when the  
    flower  
That lured the bee's quest with its flaunting  
    bloom  
Has yielded up its petals to that vast,  
Creative impulse that has shaped the  
    worlds,  
And now broods, God-like, o'er this tiny  
    seed.

SNOW LONGLEY.

## A New Departure in a Department Store

It is a well-known and conceded claim that the large modern department store keeps anything you want from a "pin to a piano" but it is not so generally known that that Fountain of Youth in the search of which so many adventurers have given their lives may be found in at least one of these stores.

Not at the cosmetic counter, but at the top of the building in a large room, both light and airy, where the owners of The Emporium in San Francisco have given their employees a piano, a pianist, a leader and a half an hour a day.

And there, during this daily relaxation period, those girls, whom, downstairs, behind the counter, running as cash, or in the wrapper's box, appear as pert little misses, some rather hard, some too knowing, some pathetically ridiculous in their cheap finery, all years older and years tireder than they should be, some way shed this hard outer shell, and you see after all they are real girls, with all the impulse for fun and frolic you had yourself in High School. In fact, it seems more like the noon intermission in a High School, say on a rainy day, when all the out-door zeal and zest were allowed inside. Young men already showing the strain of their work downstairs, up here are just boys, some bashful, some important, some clowns, but all gentlemen.

"Many firms are giving their employees various courses of instruction," said the Employer to the Leader in their first interview, "but what we want is just to give these kids a recreation period and a rest. We want some one to play for them and be jolly with them, but not to let it become a regular rough-house. They probably will want to dance, and I say, let them dance, but we better put a ban on 'ragging,' don't you think?"

"I think, if you don't mind," responded the Leader, who it seemed was born for just such work, "it would be better to let them 'rag' for a while.

You see, a large number of these girls attend dances regularly where it is the only form of dancing they ever do, consequently it is the only kind they care for. Let them 'rag' for a while, then as this period becomes a real daily pleasure for them, we'll commence to interest them in the folk-dances and rhythm-work. Now, they would call it 'high-brow stuff' and most of them would just come up to watch. What I want first is their interest and spontaneity.

The Employer was wise enough to recognize that this young person was just the one for the place. "Well, do as you think best," he said.

However, every few days he "dropped up" to watch. At first there was "ragging" principally, ragging in its absurdest forms, but there were relaxation, and spontaneity, and joy—barrels of it. Then one day the slim little Leader showed them that some of these dances could be made graceful, that no dance was really graceful or beautiful that was not so in its every pose. She had them dance a "rag," then stop suddenly at a given signal and study their various postures. It started most of them thinking.

The next week the Employer watched them through the Virginia Reel. It was a joy to see the utter abandon of it, and though it gave him a pang to see various ones give a gasp and a start, and a look at the clock, and Cinderella-like dart out of the door, yet they carried the spirit of the room with them. They looked at him with the frank smile of a happy child as they passed.

The next week the slim young Leader visited the Employer, "I have two requests," she announced, "my boys and girls have learned the Virginia Reel and the Barn Dance and some of the square dances, and we want to know if some night we can have the Recreation Room for an Old-fashioned Dance. The girls want to



dress up, they aren't going to make costumes, but just scurry round among their friends and borrow old-time dresses. And the other is," she went on without waiting for a reply, "a plan we have inaugurated,—every Monday we are going to have a 'stunt-party.' You'd be surprised how much talent I find among them.

"So they are going to give a program one week, and the alternate week I'm going to get people from the outside, to sing, or play, or read, or dance—oh, I can get them," she added emphatically. "So I want you to be sure and come up next Monday and hear their program. And we ruled

out the rag-time from these concerts—quite spontaneously," she concluded.

This started the Employer thinking. Then one day he heard a girl hum a scrap of an air, and say to the girl beside her, "Gee, but I love that Flower Song. I bought the record for it but we can't dance it. We ain't got room to change our minds, say nothing of dancing."

It was then the Employer's thought took definite shape and crystallized itself into a plan. A plan which may not be told yet, but has something to do with opening a recreation room on a larger scale for their employees in the evenings.

### The Boy Scouts and the Gangs

JUDGE EDWARD PORTERFIELD of the Kansas City Juvenile Court urges every parent in that city to induce his boys to join the Boy Scouts.

"If every boy in the city would join," he says, "the gangs would disappear, the Juvenile Court soon would be a stranger to the youth and we would rear a generation of men that would not require much police protection. I have never had a Boy Scout in my court, and there are 1200 of them in Kansas City."

This splendid tribute to an organization scarcely four years old is a well-merited one. Boys are small bundles of corked-up enthusiasm. This enthusiasm must have a vent. If there be no other outlet, the gang is the result.

The Boy Scout movement is spreading rapidly throughout the nation, and it deserves the encouragement of every good man and woman.

The Boy Scout not only is provided with an outlet for his exuberant spirits, but he is taught the love of nature in the open. He learns, too, to care for himself and for his comrades under any conditions. The first aid to the injured treatment is one of the Boy Scout's first accomplishments. He soon knows how to make fire by friction, how to cook on heated stones, how to find his way in the forest without a compass by the moss on the trees.

While there is nothing military about the Boy Scout organization, the youngsters are taught a wholesome discipline, a tenderness for the weak and a respect for the rights of others.

Judge Porterfield's experience is being duplicated in every city in the nation, and it is not at all unlikely that the Boy Scout may solve the gangster and gun-man problems of the big city.  
—St. Louis *Star*.

# Teaching Children Ideals of Right Living

By ALBERT F. TRAMS

THE recording angel is no myth; it is the law of habit. And this law is busy writing each individual's biography;

                  "and having writ  
Moves on; nor all your Piety or Wit  
Shall lure it back nor cancel half a line,  
Nor all your Tears wash out a word of it."

If this is true, and those who have grown old along with me know that it is, we would better be careful to enact right laws of habit. In this business of teaching your child ideals of right living three principles are safe to follow: Habits are largely acquired by suggestion and imitation. Training for efficiency wards off many temptations as well as leads to the development of much that is good. Noble ideals are a potent inspiration to right living.

## THE INFLUENCE OF BAD EXAMPLES

One day I was visiting my good friend Anyman, and his wife and family. Suddenly I heard a noise. Theodore had fastened a spring clothes-pin to the cat's tail. After the hubbub the mother began: "Now Theodore, will you never behave? You are the worst boy that I ever heard of. You never mind a thing I tell you. You are the most obstinate, ill-tempered, meanest boy in town. I don't know what'll become of you when you are grown. I just know you will disgrace us all." And my friend Anyman looked bored and annoyed. Some such thing had evidently happened before. Perhaps the words of his wife were familiar, and therefore tiresome, to him. At any rate he made no attempt to mend matters. He seemed to find satisfaction in glaring at the boy, and muttering gruffly for my ears alone, "I don't see where that boy gets all his cussedness. Not from my side of the house I'm sure." The wife, of course, heard the remark, and gave her husband a look which made me fear for domestic tranquility after my

departure. And the boy heard it, too. He, too, had evidently taken part in similar scenes before; it pleased him to find himself the possessor of a new quality, namely "cussedness."

A boy will live up to the reputation that his father and mother give him. If he is everlastingly told, and especially in the presence of others, that he is mean, bad, uncontrollable, and always up to some mischief, he will, before long, be just what he is painted. He manifests a sort of dare-devil pride in living up to his parents' expectation of him.

It is impossible for me to get the view-point of a parent, who, in talking to me about his boy, will say: "He won't do a thing I tell him. He won't listen to explanations. He says he knows more than I do. I simply can't manage him." In such a case I have no remedy to suggest. I suppose it will be a case of "tail wag the dog" to the end of the play. If the parent can't manage the boy now, it is because he didn't manage him when he could. From the beginning expect him to be genuine. See that he is. Expect him to behave: See that he does. Expect him to recognize values. See that he works.

What I have said of the boy will be equally true in the case of the girl. You may apply the principle in many divergent instances. "Thoughts are things." It behooves us to make practical application of this truth. It is just as easy to suggest wholesome, constructive ideas, as it is to suggest those that are unwholesome and destructive. There is too much "Don't" about child training. The best way to keep from doing things that ought not be done is to be everlastingly busy with things that should be done. Instead of saying, "Johnnie, don't do that!" say, "Johnnie, please get mother a drink." "Don'ts" often suggest "Do's," but they are always the wrong kind. Remember the mother who,

when going out, told her children to be sure not to stand on the chair and take the bean jar from the top shelf and stuff the beans up their nostrils. Upon her return each child had applied the beans as directed.

#### TEACH CHILDREN TO DO THINGS FOR THEMSELVES

If you want to ward off many temptations from your child, and lead him to develop much that is good, train him to be self-reliant. If your child gets into trouble in school it is because he has not learned to work at his lessons. If he haunts box cars, loafs on the streets and alleys, or frequents questionable resorts on Saturdays, it is because he has nothing to do. Give him work. Unless you do this, you are not training him in self-reliance. You are not giving him the benefit of a parent's whole duty. Do not forget the first principle. Imitation has a powerful influence. Strong, excellent, noble children, require strong, excellent, noble parents.

Undoubtedly, you, who love your child very much, find it hard to refrain from doing things for him. You like to run his errands. You take care of his clothes, his books, his whole personal belongings, all because you love him. Every child should be taught to do for himself in such things. Only so long as he is unable to do for himself should service be rendered him. Waiting on him after that is stealing his birthright. Every normal child is active. Why not let him be busy with what is useful, and helpful? The biographies of successful people usually show that they were boys or girls who had to do for themselves. We are likely, when noticing this fact, to credit these men or women with exceptional energy which enabled them to overcome difficulties and succeed "in spite of difficulties." This is seeing things from one angle only. Is it not just as reasonable to suppose that this exceptional energy was developed *because* of such things and not *in spite* of them? These early knocks and struggles brought out their individ-

uality, and they got into the habit of doing things. Had they been born with a golden spoon in their mouths most likely they would have had to pawn it for soup and then drink it from the bowl.

The thing I want to emphasize is this: Give your child to understand that you believe him fully able to take care of himself, with a minimum of waiting on. Let him know that you consider him an individual and not a nonentity. Show him by thought, word and action, that he has a mind, a heart, and hands. Let him exercise in right ways this mind, heart, and hands, in doing things for himself. And don't worry about his inability. Expect much of him and you will be astonished how quickly he will grow up to your standard. Let your love show itself in training him to realize his reality. Teach him to stand on his own feet, mentally, morally, and in every other way, and in the days to come he will rise and call you blessed.

#### HOW THE POETS CAN HELP CREATE IDEALS

Noble ideals are a potent inspiration to right living.

If ethics, morals, or right living, can be taught by precept, then poetry is one of the best mediums for such teaching. The poetry is not necessarily that of Milton, Goethe, Shakespeare, Tennyson, or any of the so-called "great" poets alone. The lesser singers are not so sublime, but infinitely sweeter, and more comforting. Their poetry abounds in religion, pathos, and sympathy. The poet, often so sad himself, sings all men's joys and sorrows as if they were his own; for

"We are the music makers,  
And we are the dreamers of dreams,  
Wandering by lone sea-breakers  
And sitting by desolate streams;  
World-losers and world-forsakers,  
On whom the pale moon gleams:  
Yet we are the movers and shakers  
Of the world forever it seems."

If any ethical value is to come from poetry there must be a basis for the

rational use of it. The aim should be to emphasize those passages which enforce traits of character and habits of action that have proven themselves the best means to produce the highest type of manhood and womanhood, intellectually, morally, and spiritually. Among these traits of character and habits of action we shall find Obedience, Sympathy, Consecration to Duty, Self-Respect, Self-Reliance, Fortitude, Courage, Temperance, Justice, Imagination, Hope, Faith, and Charity. Poetry is not a panacea for all the ills of moral obliquity, but if rightly taught your child will get help from it. Teach him to memorize it, to quote it, to love it, to make it part and parcel of his very existence. In teaching him do not make it a task but a pleasure. Do it by example rather than by precept. Learn it yourself. Then quote verses or stanzas when the opportunity comes. It will bring him immediately into the presence of a message which shall lift him up above himself and make him not only happier but better. Suppose your child has become discouraged, lessons have been hard, results have not come, and he has decided it is no use trying any longer. You are a mother who loves poetry, and often in the past, by the fireside or at work, he has heard you repeat it until parts of it have become his own. And now when he is about to give up he hears your voice whisper in his ear,

"The heights by great men reached and kept  
Were not attained by sudden flight,  
But they, while their companions slept,  
Were toiling upward in the night."

Hearing that, don't you think he will be heartened to try again? And don't you think, when you ask him to do something, and he puts you off, and says he isn't quite ready, it would help if you could take the little fellow by the hand, look him in the face, and say,

"You're not quite ready to start you say;  
If you hope to win  
The time to be starting is now—to-day—  
Don't dally; begin!"

No one has ever been ready as yet,  
Nor ever will be;  
You may fall ere you reach where your  
hopes are set—  
But try it and see."

I think it would help. And I also think it would not be very long until that same boy would be encouraging some other boy with the words of James T. Field,

"So near Almighty is our dust,  
Such fire is in us still,  
We have, when duty bids, 'Thou must'  
The power to say, 'I will.'"

As it is with the will of children, so is it with their emotions. They should be taught to love poetry because it will refine their feelings, and stir them to revere where reverence is due.

Make your child a friend with the poets. They will take out of his life so much that is hard and unattractive and put into it so much that is in harmony with his sympathies that by and by he will begin to believe that

"This world that we're a-livin' in  
Is mighty hard to beat;  
We git a thorn with every rose,  
But ain't the roses sweet!"

The poets will help him to idealize; will help him to see the best in everything, and that only the best will survive. Then when he grows old and looks back over a life wherein sunshine and shadow have played their parts; wherein courage has struggled with failure; wherein high and holy effort has been misunderstood, he may yet feel that

"It is enough—  
Enough—just to be good!  
To lift our hearts where they are understood;  
To let the thirst for worldly power and place  
Go unappeased; to smile back in God's face  
With the glad lips our mothers used to kiss.  
Ah! though we miss  
All else but this,  
To be good is enough!"



It will be much easier for him to be good and true with the help of the poets. Do they not tell him

"My struggling soul may never gain the prize  
It covets so;  
It may not reach the gates of Paradise  
At sunset's glow;  
But I have faith that in the shadows blue  
At set of sun,  
I shall be judged by what I've tried to do,  
Not what I've done."

The poets will make your child believe in life and the world. He is just at the age when it often seems that dreams do not come true; when he meets many disappointments; when others hurt his feelings; when he meets with so many unlovely people; when conditions seem too hard for his ideals to become actual. But just to help us forget such barren knowledge the while God gave us the poet with his song. The solutions they offer your child are not worldly pay or success, not freedom from pain or from work, but beauty, like the dawn of a sweet May morning; and peace, like a good friend for a walk in the woods.

Your child has a mind. Allow it freedom to think; give it opportunity for growth, that so its riches and sweetness may emancipate other minds less fortunate than his.

Your child has hands. Help to keep them busy at the loom of his being, weaving into its web the woof of clean

deeds and the warp of divine aspirations and noble purposes.

Your child has a heart. Help him to keep it tender and responsive to the sorrow of others, that it may give to the life of the world its riches and sweetness will all love's divine capacity and quality.

And finally,

Your child has faith. See to it that he never have cause to question your integrity. Amid the conflicts and perversities of men instil in his heart confidence in the ultimate good of everything through the warm sympathy and glow of your own enthusiasm and interest in his youthful cause.

Your child has hope. Teach him that the substance of things hoped for, and the evidence of things unseen, will one day be realized by the daring and lonely and open souls who press on to the very limit of life's horizon; that so, when others faint and fall by the way he will still press on to where he may speak with God face to face as a friend speaketh with a friend.

Your child has charity. Show him that brotherly love is centred neither in a creed nor a book, but in a life; and that its best outlet is the passionate love of comrades. Then, when others malign and speak falsely, and hate and do not understand, he will look to the horizon that lies beyond, and out of the brooding mystery will rise a Life to the light of the stars.

A life full of patient labor,  
Of suffering mingled with joy.  
A kindly word to the neighbor,  
A faith that naught could destroy.

A strong heart which sometimes grew  
weary  
When the burden was heavy to bear.  
But life could not long seem dreary  
For hope took the place of despair.

A life that went out in deep silence  
As a wave recedes from the shore:  
But the heavens rang with sweet music  
When that life was wafted o'er.

And the hopes, the dreams and the longing,  
Conceived of that soul while on earth,  
Up into that life came thronging,  
And sprang into glorious birth.

BELLE TAYLOR.

## School Superintendents Promote Parent-Teacher Associations

MR. S. P. ROWLAND, Superintendent of Schools in Hutchinson, Kansas, writes:

EDITORS CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE,  
Philadelphia, Penna.:

I am planning to have organized Parent-Teacher Associations in all my districts. I have been encouraging Parents' Days for years, but wish to place the idea on a more enduring basis.

The "Parents' Meeting" was assigned to me in the Conference of County Superintendents at our last State Teachers' Association. I discussed the subject in an informal way, except for the portion written, which is enclosed. If there is anything in this paper you can use it. I read CHILD-WELFARE with great interest. You are doing a great work.

Very truly,  
S. P. ROWLAND

### PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS

There are strong reasons for a common effort of school and home in the education of the child. It is of vast importance that teachers and parents clearly perceive the vital relations which each of these institutions bears toward the other, respecting the child's education. The duties which belong exclusively in the home should not be, cannot be safely transferred to the school. The school should not invade the territory which the home now holds by lawful right. It should welcome, however, the joint occupancy of the common ground where the efforts of one supplement the efforts of the other. The child should not be compelled to lead, as it were, two separate and distinct lives, one in the school, and another at home. Education, in a broad sense, is due to innumerable influences; but the greatest of these are those of the home and school. That child is an object of extreme pity who must work out his educational sal-

vation without the sympathy and support of his parents. The individual pupil needs the spur of parental encouragement; and the school, as a whole, including the teacher, needs the moral support of the parents.

The Parents' Meeting is one way to secure co-operation. Here parents and teachers meet upon a common ground for child-study. The parents inspect the children's work, and discuss among themselves and with the teacher, the child's welfare in the home, the school, and the State. Parent and teacher come to know the views of each other, and learn the lesson of mutual forbearance and mutual helpfulness. The sincerity and depth of parental interest in the child's progress touches the teacher's sympathies, and awakens within her new and stronger feelings of responsibility for the pupil's good. On the other hand, the parent learns to appreciate the teacher's efforts, and sees, for the first time, perhaps, the extreme difficulty in connection with her task. Thus results naturally a wish, a resolve in the minds of both to aid each other. In such meetings, the school spirit rises in the recognition of a common purpose; and petty or trivial jealousies are put aside, as parent and teacher, conscious of higher aspirations and a clearer perception of the possibilities of the school, and its influence upon life, become co-workers, in fact as well as in name, in the effort to promote the physical, mental, and spiritual education of the child.

The idea of the parents' meeting should be incorporated in a permanent "Parent-Teachers' Association" for child-study and child-welfare in each district. The work of such an association will certainly react for the improvement of school conditions, material and otherwise, and for the enrichment of the social life in the district. It will disclose the material needs of the school, and foster a de-

mand for equipment, which school officers and administrators cannot ignore. The strength and weakness of the school will be discovered in these meetings; and by reason of the reac-

tion of the school thought of the district, due to the discussions in such assemblages, effective plans will be formulated for augmenting the one, and removing the other.

### A Letter From a Father

DEAR MADAM: As this letter is not personal, and makes no attack, it is just as well that it is anonymous. The writer is a law-clerk, 37 years old, married, with children, loves his home better than any other spot on earth, and goes to Christian church service every Sunday. I want to do right; I learned on my mother's knee to say "Lead us not into temptation."

When I leave my home in the morning I want to do nothing but put in a hard day's work to earn for my family. My thoughts are farthest from women or their charms. But what am I met with? I go to the Registry of Deeds to look up a title. I am working away for dear life with my nose in the record books, and across my vision comes a young girl, with low neck, transparent stockings, and plump arms seen clear to the shoulders through the all-but-nothingness of the sleeve—a costume, if fit for anywhere, fit only for a ball-room.

And in the office the stenographers seem to compete with one another to see how much of their persons they can expose. What wonder the sports and sometimes the married employers are

tempted to invite the stenographer to supper or worse? What are the mothers thinking of? Would not any mother caution a daughter against going through a pasture, where there is a bull, wearing a red shawl? Surely married women must understand the predilections of a normal man. I think present-day mothers are very much to blame in their silly slavery to supposedly Paris fashion.

Of what use is it to harp upon babies, pure milk, recreation for children, etc., if children grow up to be *morally* dirty?

The terrible social evil will never be lessened a whit as long as women go upon our streets inviting by their shockingly immodest dress the rude gaze and the ribald remark of sports and mashers.

What's the use of "Lead us not into temptation" if men are expected to look upon women in the office, store, and on the street, indecently exposing themselves, without being affected? I tell you it's up to the mothers to reform this thing.

A FATHER.

## Department of Child Hygiene

HELEN C. PUTNAM, A.B., M.D., Editor

*Public Housekeeping Prizes:* The Department offers to Mothers' Clubs of the Congress a First Prize, \$100; Second Prize, \$60; Third Prize, \$40. These are to be awarded in order of excellence for studies of the housekeeping in elementary schools, each study being of three buildings. The right is reserved to award no prize if no study shows sufficient merit. The names of the judges will be announced later. The awards will be announced at the International Child-Welfare Congress in April. All MSS. submitted are to be retained by the judges, and any is liable to be used in this Department to supplement the series on this topic of 1909, 1910, 1911-12 (now in book form, "School Janitors, Mothers and Health," furnished through the Washington Office, 906 Loan and Trust Building). Typewritten MSS. must be in the hands of this editor not later than March 1, 1914.

### A SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO FEET

Not long ago in my line of duties was the examination of one thousand pairs of feet. They were girls' feet. They—the girls—were of our best, and between fifteen and twenty years of age.

The contrast between pretty hands and heads and the marred, misshapen feet was startling and more. It is haunting. Shame, pity and wrath discount all the lovely girls wherever seen since then; the wrath being specially concentrated on shoe store windows and advertisements of monstrosities for crippling people, with no control by either health boards or public sentiment. Mothers, if no one else, should create the sentiment,—but they wear the monstrosities sometimes, and their efficiency is lessened by so much.

In all those two thousand feet there were not twenty in good condition. Hundreds after hundreds showed differing degrees of abuse and neglect. Yet all had begun with beautiful proportions. One reason for the charm of a baby's foot perhaps is that it is the only perfect foot we see in a life-time usually. The most fascinating "exhibit" after face and clinging hands is the wonderful feet, sturdy (for a baby), every toe a perfect bit of life and motion, little bones and muscles all in order for training to do "the world's work," if given a fair chance.

They are not given it, but are cramped and twisted into merchants' schemes for beguiling dollars to bank accounts in the name of "style." Fifteen years later feet are exhibited only

in physicians' offices, or chiropodists' and "corn doctors'." There has grown in modern times a great specialty in medicine, orthopedics, to care for deformities, and the largest part of its attention is demanded for abused feet. Orthopedics has special wards and clinics, and special hospitals, international as well as national associations, scientific journals and libraries full of books. On the single subject of flat foot alone nearly a thousand painstaking articles have been published within a few years. The larger part of all this would not be needed if mothers insisted on shoes giving proper freedom to the feet. Some specialists claim that half the people wear or have worn plates to support fallen arches; others state that very many more than half are hampered by injuries caused by shoes.

Orthopedists find a score and more kinds of ills resulting. Shoes may be too short, or with high heels, or too narrow, or twisted, or ill-shaped, or too tight; and they may be too stiff, or too loose at the heel, or too thin soled.

These faults help produce such very common and apparent blemishes as calluses, corns and bunions, and knock ankles; "broken arch" or "weak foot" or "flat foot," names used by different people for the same thing. They may produce in-growing nails, hammer toes, toes lying over others or under them, or twisted and squeezed, useless, so that they have no motion of their own, and painful conditions



of flesh and bones and nerves may follow. This means neuralgias, diseases of bones that are painful, and deformities of bones that are crippling.

The ankle is made of small bones, kept in position and able to serve as support to the body by elastic bands and cushions and tendons of muscles running up the leg, whose strength and proper action are necessary for walking easily and gracefully. But shoes such as flood the market to-day bind these parts that need freedom to act, and change their "pull" so that here, too, as with the toes, weaknesses, pains, deformities, inflammations and worse result.

The arch of the foot, lying between ankle and toes, becomes painful for similar faults in shoes; or, if not painful, it is weakened, so that after an illness or when "run down" at any time, tired feet help make recovery slower. Even when well, if the feet tire easily the outdoor life that keeps one well and steadies nerves is lessened, and housekeeping made a burden. The greatest number of flat feet are found among home-makers and domestic servants, bad shoes being the cause in nearly all cases. The heel also has its list of ailments caused by bad shoes.

This above outline, just hinting at the harm done by high heels, narrow toes and other faults in shoes, has not gone beyond the foot; but the harm goes much further. Knees, hips, spinal column and shoulders are all affected when the foundation on which they rest, the feet, does not stand and move with flexibility and correct adjustment in propelling the body forward. To keep this bony framework balanced and working effectively muscles pull and through flexible joints hold it in position; with healthy feet acting in all the ways feet were built to act, their variety of motions gives muscles and framework exercise to develop a symmetrical, graceful body, temple for the soul.

Cramping any power in the feet creates one-sided or other imperfect action of the muscles to counterbalance the disarranged base of support. This

causes habitually one-sided muscular development, disordered joints and nerves, and the habit continued finally causes bones themselves to become uneven because pulled so by the muscles or pressed unevenly by other bones, for bones are growing and changing daily like any other part of the body. In these ways we find pains or weaknesses or deformities in the leg below the knee; perhaps a quarter of "shoe cases" have trouble there. Or we find them in the knee itself, or above it in the thigh, or hip or back.

Backache, and crooked spine and stooping shoulders are each found with these abuses of the feet, for reasons similar to those given—the abnormal action of muscles and ligaments. These conditions cannot exist without causing fatigue and inviting other ill-health. The whole boy or girl, woman or man becomes out of poise—not only bodily poise, but mental and moral. The three are close together. It may be quite evident that the person is not "efficient" as he might be; or it may not be suspected by any but the philosopher and the person. Most of us think that we could do better than we do. Philosophers are urging that we are not one-half efficient. And we may be sure that defective feet, perhaps painful, are discouraging some part of our usefulness.

Policemen and soldiers are disqualified by foot defects due to shoes; candidates for these appointments are rejected because of them. Teachers, doctors, clerks and others in standing occupations make a large part of orthopedists' practice. More women are afflicted than men. Where hospitals have physical examination of candidates for training schools for nurses, three-fourths of them have foot troubles. The one chief preventive measure, even in some of the cases where pain has begun, is wearing proper shoes. When this is done, although under the trying conditions of hospital service, the feet do not become troublesome except in a very few cases where other treatment is needed. In hospitals without this preliminary care

the majority of nurses suffer with their feet, and must be cured later.

Housewives are the greatest sufferers, mostly because of shoes, partly because they neglect outdoor recreations and so are often "under par." They do not realize sometimes that good shoes will hurt after wearing wrong ones, and that when so they would better make the change under the advice of a specialist, being sure to select a good one. It takes months, at least, to undo years' mistakes. Yesterday a patient called whom I had not seen since last April, my suggestion having been to try gardening for her nerves. She had for many years, on the advice of physicians, worn "made to orders" and plates to support the arch of the foot, with no improvement, but the contrary. It had at last for some time "got on her nerves."

She now reports that both nerves and feet are well. A pair of boys' rubber boots bought for gardening and cutting flowers in early morning dews did it. The boots left toes and tendons, bones, muscles and ligaments free to act as the baby's foot is free to act. The glorious morning air and exercise enjoyed by body and soul did the rest. This story tells a part of the *remedy*. It would be wiser for mothers to prevent the condition. The suggestion some one has made that we have a Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Feet has good sense in it.

Its field of usefulness would equal that of the American Public Health Association or Association for Study and Prevention of Infant Mortality, so that they could "affiliate"! These or-

ganizations are finding that their concerns are with nearly everything going on, as are those of the Mothers' Congress. The S. P. C. F. could quite logically be a department of the Congress. It only needs mothers and their co-workers to combine against bad shoes, high heels and the like, and wonderful good will result; better health, better tempers, even—yes—better babies; efficiency increased for much more than half of the population; happier homes and less divorce because of better tempers and efficiency. With apologies to Kipling,

There are nine and sixty woes  
Connect with people's toes,  
Due, every blessed one of them, to—  
*shoes.*

The S. P. C. F. not only would create public opinion and laws, but would provide penalties for breaking the laws. Thoughtful consideration of what is due merchants and manufacturers deliberately crippling people with their output urges capital punishment, either hanging or electrocuting. But further deliberation finds these inadequate. It seems more probable that the rule, Do unto them as they would do unto others, would get the results desired. The legal penalty might be sentences for terms of years or for life to wear footgear made after the pattern of their most "fashionable ladies' and misses' shoes" of the past decade. This would be a near approach to pure justice, and is possibly the only convincing method of reformation—the ideal of sentencing in this age.

My child is lying on my knees,  
The signs of Heaven she reads;  
My face is all the Heaven she sees,  
Is all the Heaven she needs.

And so I sit in Thy wide space,  
My child upon my knee;  
She looketh up into my face,  
And I look up to Thee.

## What Parents Can Learn From Children

By MISS BUTLER

"Oh dearest, dearest child, my heart  
For better love would seldom yearn,  
Could I but teach the hundredth part  
Of what from thee I learn."

THE man or woman who has reached middle age without learning the lessons he or she has been taught by that great master, experience, is only worthy to rank with the beautiful but ineffectual Peter Pans of life, the beings who never grow up. Those who are willing to accept the position of scholars in the world's great school will therefore forgive the title of this little paper, *What Parents Can Learn from Children*. For we may all be learning every day, and it is in all humility that I invite you to come to school for half an hour with those who teach us best, because unconsciously.

Children are like mirrors in which we see ourselves reflected, and we have only to look to see many things to which we had been blind before. I do not say this as giving merit to the children, it is simply a natural fact, and one which we also see repeatedly not only in the child races of the world, but in what some think are our natural ancestors. The Chinese, when taking notes of a lecture or trying to repeat it, will copy not only the words but the gestures of their master, and will report every time he clears his throat or scratches his head; while Du Chaillu's and other travellers' stories of the way the monkeys imitate their masters in the woods make one tremble for one's supremacy. But children will often unconsciously bring home to us our own defects. There is a little story of the Brothers Grimm, about a man and his wife who lived in a poor cottage with their child, a boy of about five, and the man's father lived with them. This poor old man was feeble and worn out, so that his hands trembled and his head shook. He used to spill his food on the table, and once he let the basin which contained it fall to the ground and it

broke. The man and his wife did not like this, so they made the old man sit in a corner by himself away from the table, and gave him a coarse wooden bowl for his food. One day they saw their little boy very busily trying to join some pieces of wood together as he sat playing on the floor. "What are you doing?" asked the mother. "Oh!" he replied; "I am making a wooden bowl for you and father when you are too old to sit at the table." The man and his wife said nothing, but looked at each other. After that the old man sat at the table and ate with them. A true story is of a young mother who used to teach her little girl of seven music, and would sometimes use the pencil with which she pointed out the notes on the page to prick the inattentive fingers. The child in her turn wished to give her little sister a music lesson, but would not begin till she had found a pencil. "Never mind about the pencil," said the mother, "sit down at the piano." "Oh, but I shall have nothing to prick her with!" said the child to whom that was the most important part of the lesson. The pencil was not used for that purpose again. But besides the faults of imitation, the faults that come from a bad example, children often inherit tendencies and failings which we ought to be able to check by our own experience. The years of discretion will show us where our own parents made mistakes in our bringing up, though nothing is more common than to see the same faults and mistakes repeated in the next generation. A father will often not realize till too late that his son has many of his own characteristics and ought to have quite a different set of influences brought to bear if he is to avoid his failures. But no, there seems to be a fatal attraction to the same kind of direction, be it public school, home discipline or general misunderstanding, and presently if the son takes a

line of his own he is stigmatized as unfilial like the many heirs apparent of history; all or most of which could be avoided by that true sympathy and insight which will guide rather than rule. But too often it seems that each generation has to learn its own lessons, and the older one can only look on and suffer because it does not know how to make its experience of use.

The second point of view springs naturally from this, for sympathetic parents will learn more about the children from themselves than from any theories. They will watch them and let them grow and not keep pulling them up by the roots to see how they do it, for much harm is done by interference. They will learn what a secondary part the elders have in the children's lives in spite of their important position. The *real* life, as we can all remember if we try, is under the nursery table, or in the free time after school hours when the masters are out of the way, or when sisters and school friends meet round a bedroom fire after dark. "You wouldn't understand" may be said to the most sympathetic of fathers and mothers, and the wise parent or teacher will quietly accept the lesson and leave the young ones alone. Where there is real confidence and love they will come and tell us all that is good for us to know at their own time and in their own way, but the two generations cannot quite always meet.

No doubt it is better so for the ripening of the race and the future of the world, and we shall be wise not to make a grievance of it.

Another thing that is rather hard to learn is that it is not impossible for our children to be sometimes wiser than we are, for they know things by instinct which we try to reduce to reason, and a true instinct is the surest guide there is. This is what Wordsworth meant to tell us in the poem, "Anecdotes for Fathers," some lines from which I have put at the head of this paper, besides the obvious lesson that if you ask unnecessary questions you will point the way to untruthful answers. This true instinct, the guid-

ing which makes one believe in guardian angels, should allay the over-anxiety which the best parents feel when life brings new paths before their children. We may tremble at the new friendships they form, the new ambitions they follow, as we do when they climb trees and handle guns before our eyes. "Let the boy win his spurs!" cried King Edward from the windmill at Crecy, when his barons wanted to go and help the Prince of Wales, hard pressed by his foes. It is hard, too, to look on and see them make mistakes, but unless serious difficulties may arise they will learn more by their mistakes than by our wisdom. Moreover, we ought to trust the good principles and the affection of the children whom we have brought up; they do not play us false as often as the novelists imagine. Closely connected with trust is honor, the quality which will help the parents to understand the child's first independent steps towards a vocation in life. It is not always easy for them to step aside and see their children take the very road they did not or would not choose for them. If this is hard, if the heart naturally quails before the unknown path which they seem to see plainly though it is dark to us, let it not be forgotten that it is harder still for the child when he awakens to the fact that his parents do not know everything. There is comfort and guidance too for us here, as in all our difficulties, in the Gospel story. Surely, it was not in reproach but in wonder that the child Jesus asked the question: "Wist ye not that I must be about My Father's business?" "Is it possible that you, My Mother, did not know . . . ?" Here was the high calling; and the Blessed Mother knew not what her Child knew.

So then the way that parents may learn from their children can be summed up in few words. It is my observation, by remembering their own childhood, by patience, trust and self-effacement. And all the time the crown is being prepared, and one day to their great surprise their children rise up and call them blessed.



## Bird Pictures Free to Teachers

THE sum of \$15,000 has been contributed to the National Association of Audubon Societies for the purpose of helping teachers to give simple instruction in bird study to their pupils during the year 1914. The Audubon plan to help teachers in this connection is as follows:

Any teacher or other person who will interest not less than ten children in contributing a fee of ten cents each to become Junior Members and will send this to the office of the National Association, will receive for each child

receives, without cost to herself, one full year's subscription to the beautiful illustrated magazine "Bird-Lore." This is the leading publication in the world on bird study. To the teacher also there is sent other free literature containing many hints on methods of putting up bird boxes, feeding birds in winter and descriptions of methods for attracting birds about the home or school house.

The accompanying illustration will give some idea of the character of these pictures, but remember they are



MEADOWLARK

Reduced from large four-color illustrations of the Audubon Society Bird Pictures.

ten of the best colored pictures of wild birds which have ever been published in this country. With each one of these ten pictures goes an outline drawing intended to be used by the child for filling in the proper colors with crayons. Each picture is also accompanied with a four-page leaflet discussing the habits and general activities of the bird treated. Every child also receives an Audubon button. The cost of publishing and mailing this material is a little more than twice as much as the child's fee.

The teacher who forms such a class

all in natural colors, are much larger than is here indicated, and are printed on cards of sufficient size to make attractive schoolroom decorations.

The ten subjects supplied to children this year are as follows: Nighthawk, Mourning Dove, Meadowlark, Flicker, Sparrow Hawk, Screech Owl, Purple Martin, Cuckoo, Hummingbird and Robin.

Endorsing this work, Dr. P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, says: "I consider the work of the Junior Audubon Classes very

important for both educational and economic results, and I congratulate you upon the opportunity of extending it. The bird clause in the Mosaic Law ends with the words, 'That it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days.' The principle still holds. I hope that through your efforts the American People may soon be better informed in regard to our wild birds and their value."

In 1913 school children to the number of 53,157 availed themselves of

this opportunity. Hundreds of enthusiastic letters have been received from teachers.

As long as the Association's special fund for this work holds out this offer is open to any teacher in the United States or Canada. Any teacher reading this notice may immediately form a class, send in the dues and receive the material, or further information will gladly be furnished upon request.

T. GILBERT PEARSON, *Secretary*,  
1974 Broadway, New York City.

### Mrs. P. P. Claxton's Library Work in Tennessee

"WHILE in charge of the library in Nashville I became deeply interested in an idea which occurred to me one day of co-ordinating the public library and the public schools. The success with which this was accomplished there may be achieved in every other city in the country which has a library and a public school. I believe that if we could instil into the very young child a love of reading, we would have given him the *modus operandi* of getting an education. Even if he should have to leave school to earn a living before he got as far as high school, an education would be easily within his reach, provided he learned the art of reading. So, each public school in Nashville, each classroom in each public school, I might say, was made a sort of library centre.

"The co-operation of the teachers was secured, and they entered enthusiastically into the plan. They took charge of so many library books every week, saw that the children carried them home and read them and then returned them.

"By this plan we distributed more than 93,000 books within a twelve-month. Thousands of these went into homes of children too poor to pay carfare to and from the library. Others went to boys and girls that the teachers could reach, but that the library had never before reached. It is a plan that worked wonders in Nashville, and one which I wish could be put into effect in every other city, particularly in counties and rural districts where reading means so much to the people."

### Launch Out Into the Deep, and Let Down Your Nets for a Draught. *Luke v. 4.*

Shall we not "launch out into the deep,"  
The awful depths of a world's despair?  
Hearts that are breaking and eyes that  
weep,  
Sorrow and ruin and death are there.

The sea is wide, and the pitiless tide  
Bears on his bosom away, away,  
Beauty and youth in relentless ruth  
To its dark abyss for aye, for aye.  
But the Master's voice comes o'er the sea,  
"Let down your nets for a draught"—for  
Me;  
He stands in our midst on our wreck-  
strewn strand,

And sweet and royal is His command,  
His pleading call is to each, to all.

And where'er the royal call is heard,  
There hang the nets of the royal word,  
Trust to the nets and not to your skill,  
Trust to the royal Master's will;  
Let down your nets each day and each  
hour,

The word of a King's a word of power,  
And the King's own voice comes o'er the  
sea,

"Let down your nets for a draught"—for  
Me!  
*Selected.*

## Women in Japan

"WE delight in boasting that the position of women among us is superior to that of the women of all other lands. It seems to me that the Japanese woman has little to complain of. Her position is of a more retiring nature by preference, as much as by tradition. She shuns publicity. Domesticity is her atmosphere. The old teaching of Euripides that 'a woman should be good for everything at home, and for nothing abroad,' seems to hold good also in Japan. Like the Spartan woman of old, her ambition is to be the wife of a great man and the mother of illustrious children.

"To the Japanese woman no glory is greater than that of being a worthy wife and mother. To become such she prepares herself early in the manifold duties of domestic life. No matter how high the education she receives no curriculum is allowed to crowd out domestic art. When servants are kept the women of the home are their guides and teachers, not their helpless dependents, as is only too frequently the case with our own women. A large family is said to be the ambition of every wife, and, judging by what one sees, it would seem that that ambition is realized by all of them. Artificial feeding of infants is next to unknown.

### NOT BASELY SUBJECTIVE

"If the Japanese woman be a worshipping, as it is said, of her father and husband, she has her reward in being worshipped by her children. Man being the provider, and being obliged to struggle hard for the means of the family's subsistence, she is willing to pay him the regard that is due to father and husband. That such regard is not a species of base subjection is clearly seen from the happy and contented expression visible on the face of nearly every Japanese woman, and by her grace and charm. If such looks and charm be the price for womanly subjection to man, I would strongly advise

large numbers of our women to obey the Japanese instructions to obey the parents when young, their husbands when wives, their sons when widows. Of course, there exist in Japan women to whom much of what I said above does not apply. It is as wrong, however, to judge all the women of Japan by that class as it would be to judge European and American women by the scum of their sex.

"The geisha, the girl hired out by her parents for a number of years, as an entertainer at public places, represents an old-time custom that has lingered all too long in Japan. In defense of it, the claim is advanced that some women are needed for purposes of professional entertainment, and that, for the good of others, some few must make a sacrifice of themselves. There was a time, even among us, and that not very long ago, that women who went upon the stage as actresses, songstresses and dancers were regarded beyond the pale of decent society. That time happily is past. The time will come when in Japan, too, society will pay its tribute of respect to those who employ their gifts of song and grace and elocution for its entertainment.

"In the evil of divorce, Japan is said to equal the United States. But the causes leading to it here, according to report, are different from those at home. Here it is largely due to the custom of newly wedded couples living with the parents of their respective husbands. The trouble-maker is said generally to be the mother-in-law. So ingrained is the sense of filial obedience that, if the daughter-in-law incur the displeasure of the mother-in-law, her husband must dismiss her. A change, however, is setting in. Young couples are beginning to start house-keeping for themselves immediately after marriage, and distance from the mother-in-law is beginning to lengthen the distance from the divorce courts."

RABBI KRAUSKOPF

## Educational Notes

FROM THE BUREAU OF EDUCATION

MORE GRADUATES FROM THE PHILIPPINE SCHOOLS; THEIR INFLUENCE IN THE COUNTRY; ONE MILLION CHILDREN NOT IN SCHOOL

THE influence which the large number of school-trained children in the Philippines will have on the political body of the country is great. In no less degree than the boys do the girls contribute to the general intelligence of the country, though they do not become voters. In that rapidly developing country, a primary graduate—as soon as he becomes of age—should possess such educational qualifications as may enable him to meet the requirements for becoming a voter. Intermediate graduates should, in view of their greater opportunity for study, be qualified for leadership in their respective communities. High School graduates, even if they do not continue their studies in the university, are educationally qualified for leadership in a rather broad way. The influence of the public schools is even now being felt in governmental affairs.

The report of the attendance of the public schools just after the opening of this school year has reached the authorities at Washington. It shows a very material increase over last year. During the school year 1912-13 there were graduated from the primary course 10,938 boys and 4,102 girls; from the intermediate course 3,643 boys and 1,052 girls; from the secondary course 284 boys and 58 girls. The present year shows a total attendance of 463,518 divided as follows: primary 425,093, intermediate 30,576, and secondary 5,950. "It is very evident, therefore," says the Director of Education, "that our graduations for this school year are going to be much larger."

Due to the very excellent courses of study provided for the pupils of the public schools and the thorough manner in which they are carried out, this increasing number of graduates is having a most beneficial effect and is certain to advance the interests of

the country, not only in a governmental but in a material way as well.

It is estimated that the public schools are now reaching about one-third of the school population. There are approximately a million children of school age not now provided with public school facilities. This condition is largely due to insufficiency of funds available for appropriation for school purposes. For the year 1912-13 there was expended from Insular, Provincial and Municipal funds the sum of \$3,531,427.91, or 47 cents per capita of total population, while in the United States the average cost of education per capita of population is \$4.45, almost ten times as great.

### KINDERGARTENS

The National Kindergarten Association has established a Colored Demonstration Kindergarten in Chattanooga. A mass meeting was held to interest citizens. More than a thousand dollars has been pledged by the local colored people to maintain the work.

### SEX HYGIENE

There are some kinds of knowledge that become poisonous when administered by the wrong hands, and sex hygiene is among them.

It is hard to believe that this new mischief can be advocated by any one with a practical, as opposed to a theoretical, knowledge of children, or by any one who is aware of the school-class consciousness that always tends to descend to the level of its lower units. A proper sex hygiene cannot be taught as arithmetic or geography are taught. It does not consist in the imparting of facts. It cannot be written down in books, or even talked about in a formal and definite way. Sex hygiene is a matter more of moral



than of intellectual consciousness. It comes only from the ceaseless vigilance of parents, from the constant inculcation of self-restraint, and from those wise "words in season" that can never find a place in a school curriculum. No one who can look back upon his own boyhood days and so imagine the effect of a class lesson on sex hygiene, could fail to look upon an experiment of this kind without consternation. If any educational effort of this sort is to be made—and

it ought to be made and it is being made—it should not be directed toward the children, but toward the parents. That parents are gravely remiss is true enough, but this is an evil that cannot be remedied by adding a new subject to the school curriculum. Sex hygiene can properly be taught only by parents and guardians. In the hands of others it is a virulent poison. It is far better that it should be untaught than taught wrongly.—*School Board Journal*, Dec., '13.

### Easter Recitation

By A CHILD HOLDING A LILY

#### THE LILY.

Oh lily white as snow,<sup>1</sup>  
Will you tell me how you grow,  
Did the fairies spin your dress,  
Did the sun your leaves caress?  
Did the rain drops fall on you,  
Gently as the falling dew?  
Did your petals clear and white steal a ray  
Steal a ray of pure sunlight?  
I'll lay my ear close to your heart,<sup>2</sup>  
If you the secret will impart.

What is it you say, you grow?<sup>3</sup>  
But how, you're sure you don't know?  
You toil not nor spin?  
Yet the raiment you're in  
Surpasses in glory  
King Solomon's story:

In his purple and scarlet he never could  
show  
Such a beautiful dress as the lilies that  
grow;  
And where can we find you, where look for  
the place  
Where you open your petals with delicate  
grace?

You say in the field or the glen below,  
Wherever the seed is dropped you grow?  
Anyhow, anywhere.  
Whether 'tis sheltered or not you don't care.  
You grow for children, for rich and poor,  
God told you to grow and He said nothing  
more?  
And now I have plucked you, you look in  
my face,  
And give me your fragrance, your beauty,  
your grace:  
Dear Lily, My Savior like you was pure,  
He came with a love which shall ever  
endure,  
He came and He grew sweet and lovely  
like you;  
And, sweet flower of the valley, your name  
He took, too;<sup>4</sup>  
The grasses may wither, the flowers fade  
away,  
But death is the gateway to glorious day,  
Where white as the lily shall be our new  
dress.<sup>4</sup>  
When we're clad in the raiment of Christ's  
righteousness.

MRS. MILTON P. HIGGINS.

#### Motions:

<sup>1</sup> Hold the lily up and talk to it.

<sup>2</sup> Put lily to her ear and listen about ten seconds.

<sup>3</sup> Drop hand with lily.

<sup>4</sup> Raise hand containing lily.

## Department of Parents' Problems

For help to parents in meeting their questions the National Congress of Mothers has just published "Parents and Their Problems" which is a Practical Encyclopedia on Child-Welfare. It is complete in eight volumes. It will be sent anywhere in the United States, carriage prepaid, for a five days' examination. Send orders to National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, 906 Loan and Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

IN the new department—Parents' Problems—which I am most glad to see started, it may be that you will sometimes have some answer to the following which the discussion of this paper brought before our circle: "How can a mother keep her children from evil associates without giving the child the snobbish idea that he is 'better than' the forbidden companions? A child's playthings should be such that he shall not feel that they are too good for his companions to share with him. How shall a mother deal with a neighbor's child who has not been taught to be ordinarily careful and who abuses the toys unnecessarily?" These were answered in our meeting but the answers were not satisfactory at all.

Can the readers of CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE give suggestions on this question?

### DRESS FOR SCHOOL GIRLS

The mother of a girl in her first year in a High School writes us that she is at her wits' end to bring into unison her own strong feeling of her responsibility to teach her daughter necessary personal modesty for her own protection as she grows older as well as she be not a temptation to the boys with whom she is thrown, and still allow her to be dressed as is considered fitting and stylish at this time. She asks if there is not something that the Mothers' Congress can do to remedy the present immodest dressing of our American women to preserve the most essential modesty of the mothers of the future. One woman cannot meet this question without the support of others; she is simply odd, and most of the young girls have not the strength of character which comes with the matured mind to meet it, so they lose the heritage we have been fortunate enough to have.

Answer: The question of the dress of young girls is one that in a larger degree than ever before confronts the mothers of to-day. No stronger proof of this is needed than the reply received from the Superintendent of Police in a large city who had been notified that numbers of young girls were frequenting one of the best streets of the city plying their vile trade of soliciting passers on the thoroughfare. While promising to put plain clothes men there to clear the street, he said, "It is impossible for our men now to distinguish respectable girls from those of the demimonde, for both dress alike." When an official makes a statement like this, it is time for every careful mother to wake to the situation. She knows far better than her daughter what dangers confront girls.

Silence on a mother's part is a cruel wrong. Without going too deeply into the dark side of life, every mother can teach her daughter from earliest childhood that the secret of good dressing for the street is simplicity, and that all which is glaring or conspicuous should be avoided.

More than all at the present time seems to be the need for mothers to use their influence against the wide use of rouge and powder which is prevailing among women of all ages, which is obvious to all, and deceives no one.

### PARENTS WANT A PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

We have a Child-Welfare Circle of about thirty members in this little town, organized just a year ago. The inspiration for our organization came from a letter which I received from the President of the National Congress of Mothers. We hold meetings every two weeks, which are interesting and profitable. We feel that every

plan we make for advancement leads toward the organization of all the parents of the community—a parent-teacher association. We discovered to-day that the teachers will not co-operate with us. It has long been currently reported that the teachers do not want the parents to come to school. Their action now seems to corroborate that report. They say it is not the time; they have all they can do now. The teachers who are trained for their work are presumably capable of that for which they are hired and do best without interference. There has been misconception of the purposes and advantages of the proposed association, which is not easily corrected, as the teachers are not very open to conviction. What is the best course to pursue in such a situation? The women of our present organization are anxious to enlist the active co-operation of their husbands and of others. Is it best to form an organization without the teachers or with their passive co-operation reluctantly given, or is it better to wait until the teachers change their attitude or are replaced by others who may think differently? Waiting seems hard while the children suffer the lack of advantages which they might and should have. To try to go ahead without the teachers is to have the movement so crippled that it can-

not be what it should be. Any help you feel justified in offering will be most sincerely appreciated.

Answer: The objection of teachers to having a Parent-Teacher Association usually arises from the mistaken idea that the association will give them more work, and interference from those who are not conversant with school work.

When they learn that the association as conducted by the parents under the plan advised by the Mothers' Congress lightens the work of the teacher and brings co-operation and help, their view is changed.

The Mothers' Congress recommends that in such a case a reception be given to the teachers by the parents. At that reception some one should be prepared to show the great educational object of the Parent-Teacher Association, that it is a plan for home education and child study for parents; that it gives co-operation to schools that was never before obtainable. The endorsement of the Bureau of Education and leading educators of the United States will be influential in leading those to whom the plan is new to investigate further. Items from State News in CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE give convincing testimony as to the benefit.

It is rarely wise to force such organization, but to enlist the teachers first.

### Press and Publicity

#### TO STATE PRESIDENTS:

It is desirable that in every organized State all the members of the Board of Managers shall be *ex officio* members of the State Press Committee, because,

1. They come from different sections of the State.
2. It is very probable that each is a woman of influence in her own section, and could enlist the co-operation of editors in her district.
3. The members of the Board receive news of plans and events promptly and first-hand at the Board meetings. Newspapers want "new news" above everything.
4. The State Press Chairman can give out copy at these meetings or can give instructions—thus saving postage and time.

5. News of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations may also be given out in this way, in combination with State news.

Every State President is urged to embody in her addresses a recommendation to each Mothers' Circle and Parent-Teacher Association that it have its own press correspondent to report to its own local paper.

A vast amount of extension work can be accomplished in this way at a minimum of time, effort and expense.

MRS. EDGAR A. HALL,

National Chairman of Press and Publicity,  
2031 Fulton Street,  
Chicago.

## Program for Parent-Teacher Associations for March

The Programs given from month to month require the service of three members of the association for each meeting. They develop home talent, at the same time providing papers of highest value in child-nurture. They ensure a high standard for the season's meetings, and awaken wider interest in child-welfare as the members learn of the movement throughout the world.

**FIRST TOPIC** (To be read by one member).

THE CHILD IN MUSIC.

TEACHING CHILDREN IDEALS OF RIGHT LIVING.

**SECOND TOPIC** (To be assigned to another member).

WHAT OTHER PARENTS' ASSOCIATIONS ARE DOING.

Information culled from State News.

**THIRD TOPIC** (To be assigned to third member).

CURRENT NEWS OF WORK FOR CHILD-WELFARE, gleaned from all sources, both local and international.

The National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations also offers a series of Loan Papers for program use. They are typewritten. Each series may be kept for the season. The cost is \$2.00. The papers may be assigned to a different member of the association for each meeting. They have been selected to meet the needs of parents and teachers in dealing with problems of child life at different stages of its development. Send to National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, 906 Loan and Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

A list of 25 books suitable for use of parents will be sent to those who desire it. A Circle of 25 members can have a valuable circulating library if each member can buy just one book.



## Aims and Purposes of National Congress of Mothers

To raise the standards of home life. To develop wiser, better-trained parenthood.

To give young people, ignorant of the proper care and training of children, opportunities to learn this, that they may better perform the duties of parenthood.

To bring into closer relations the home and the school, that parent and teacher may co-operate intelligently in the education of the child.

To surround the childhood of the whole world with that loving, wise care in the impressionable years of life, that will develop good citizens, instead of lawbreakers and criminals.

To carry the mother-love and mother-thought into all that concerns or touches childhood in Home, School, Church, State or Legislation.

To interest men and women to co-operate in the work for purer, truer homes, in the belief that to accomplish the best results, men and women must work together.

To secure such legislation as will ensure that children of tender years may not be tried in ordinary courts, but that each town shall establish juvenile courts and special officers, whose business it shall be to look out for that care which will rescue, instead of confirm the child in evil ways.

To work for such probationary care in individual homes rather than institutions.

To rouse the whole community to a sense of its duty and responsibility to the blameless, dependent and neglected children, because there is no philanthropy which will so speedily reduce our taxes, reduce our prison expenses, reduce the expense of institutions for correction and reform.

The work of the Congress is civic work in its broadest and highest sense, and every man or woman who is interested in the aims of the Congress is cordially invited to become a member and aid in the organized effort for a higher, nobler national life, which can only be attained through the individual homes.

## EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

Dr. M. V. O'SHEA, Madison, Wis.  
Mrs. ORVILLE T. BRIGHT, 6515 Harvard Ave.,  
Chicago, Ill., Vice-Chairman.  
Miss GERTRUDE VAN HOESSEN, Chicago University.  
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Prof. CHARLES McMURRAY, DeKalb, Ill.  
Dr. ROBERT N. WILLSON, Philadelphia, Pa.  
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Prof. EDWARD ST. JOHN, Hartford, Conn.  
Prof. E. A. KIRKPATRICK, Fitchburg, Mass.

## State News

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

News items from the States must be in the hands of the editorial board by the tenth of the previous month to ensure their appearance in the next magazine. The editorial board earnestly asks the attention of every press chairman to the necessity of complying with this rule.

### CALIFORNIA

**Second District of the California Congress of Mothers holds conference and plans annual convention in April, at Alameda—Berkeley Mothers' Circles give happy Christmas to children in Home—Alameda reports great interest in Mothers' Clubs—San Francisco school board and principals value Mothers' Congress Work—Mothers' Clubs work for Establishment of Kindergartens in all schools**

Out here in California we are finding the magazine more interesting and indis-

pensable all the time. Some of the State reports are particularly inspiring.

EMMA L. DOYLE,

*Publicity Chairman, 2d District California Congress of Mothers.*

### SECOND DISTRICT MEETING CALIFORNIA CONGRESS OF MOTHERS.

The Second District of the California Congress of Mothers held an executive board meeting January 19, 1914, at San Francisco, the president, Mrs. W. T. Blackburn, in the chair. A good number of the twenty-five members of the board were present, Berkeley being particularly well represented.

Mrs. W. H. Marston reported the chief interest of the Berkeley Federation to be centred in the coming school bond election; also that the various clubs had done splendid work in providing clothing and fruit for the children in the Home. They saw to it that Santa Claus did not miss the Home's chimney Christmas Eve, through which he managed to take two Christmas trees loaded with toys and candies for all the little ones. A bounteous Christmas dinner was served to gladden the hearts of the little folks whom fate has so handicapped.

Mrs. E. Allen, of Alameda, reported the spread of the mothers' club movement in Alameda, and although their federation contains but two clubs, indications are strong that the number will soon be increased.

Miss Florence Musto, president of the San Francisco Congress, said the work was flourishing in San Francisco, and that school board and principals appreciate more and more the value of the work done by the mothers. Much interest is shown in the kindergarten, and many clubs are using their best efforts to have kindergartens organized in their respective schools.

Mrs. E. Allen, of Alameda, chairman on education, gave a list of speakers on topics of interest to mothers' clubs.

Mrs. C. C. Emslie told of the emergency work done about the bay—how one club has raised \$50 at a cooking sale, and spent it for shoes for needy children; how another had lent a helping hand where six children, suddenly made motherless, needed help and care sorely, and how others had sent garments to districts where winter's touch is most keenly felt.

Mrs. J. F. King, of Oakland, chairman on public amusements, gave it as her opinion that the only effective censorship of amusements would have to be national—a censorship at the source, though considerable can be done in neighborhoods by active committees.

The chairman on kindergartens being absent, Mrs. H. N. Rowell spoke on that subject. She said that in cases where school boards could not afford a more expensive building, the Fresno building, an open-air one, provided with canvas for use in inclement weather, could be erected for \$500.

It was decided to have the Second District annual convention in April, the date to be announced later. The invitation of the members from Alameda to the district to meet in their city was accepted with enthusiasm, and Mrs. Halvor Hauch and

Mrs. E. Allen of Alameda, and Mrs. A. M. Beebe, of Oakland, were named as a committee on arrangements. The presidents of the seventy-nine clubs in the district will make their annual reports and the election of district officers will be held.

The regular every other monthly meeting of the district will take the form of a reciprocity luncheon at the Hotel Oakland, the third Monday of March.

The afternoon session opened at 2 P.M., in the Girls' High School, for a conference on Child Hygiene. Between two and three hundred interested women were present, some coming from as far as Healdsburg on the north and others from San Jose on the south. Dr. Margaret Farnham, chairman of the afternoon, after a few graceful words of greeting, introduced Dr. A. A. D'Ancona, president of the San Francisco Board of Education. His subject was "Hygiene in the Schools." He compared the old and the modern ideals of education, the one preparing for a college course, and confining itself almost entirely to an acquisition of book knowledge, the other striving to train students for efficiency in life. Efficiency depends largely on health, consequently physical education has become of prime importance, and a large portion of time should be given to it. The speaker expressed doubt of the wisdom of home study. That cleanliness is the basis of health is a principle to be inculcated. The essential rule of personal hygiene, however, is self-control, the highest quality, perhaps, of the human mind, the hardest and last to acquire in youth, the first to lose with advancing years. Young people should not be told of the evil in life, but rather should be taught self-control and to do right not through fear, but for the growth in consciousness of power in self control. All the laws of life can be taught through the study of biology.

Mature people should realize the evils of life to be prepared to protect the young. The speaker urged participation in athletics by all students, instead of by only a few, as is the tendency in schools at present.

The next speaker, Mrs. H. N. Rowell, president of the California Congress of Mothers, told of the object of the National Congress—child-welfare. The organization was founded in 1897, by Mrs. Phoebe Hearst and Mrs. Theo. Birney, and its seventeenth anniversary is to be celebrated February 17th, by special programs in the various mothers' clubs, to interest the public in its child-welfare work. The United States Bureau of Education is greatly in-

terested in the work of the National Congress of Mothers, in parental education, and has an office for it in the bureau.

Mrs. Rowell then took up her special topic, "Hygiene in the Home." She spoke of the necessity of proper food and clothing, fresh air and plenty of sleep for growing children. Attention should be given to the kind of air in the basement of one's home, as experiment has proven the air in the first floor to be one-half basement air. She made a strong plea for an abundance of fresh air in the home, asking by what process of reasoning people could consider house air better than out-door air. The necessity for plenty of sleep for children was dwelt upon. Many parents, otherwise careful and intelligent, are careless in this respect.

Mrs. F. G. S. Perry spoke in a delightful way on the child as a child, and the necessity of home amusements for children. She urged studying the psychology of the child, and showing faith in the wisdom of Divine plan as shown in the child. Study the natural child in his natural expression, and let him express himself in his own way. Do not repress him, for from too much control of emotion in youth, emotion later takes back-channels of expression. Let them express themselves through the imagination—the natural child revels in the dramatic, but do not let him become theatrical.

Home should be the play centre for a child. Let him and his friends give expression to natural emotion in play at home, and play with him. An interesting home is a safe home. Children who find their homes interesting, will not care much for the "movies" and later for the public dances and other amusements where there may be danger.

Dr. Adelaide Brown was then introduced and handled her subject, "City Milk Supply" in a masterly way. The milk problem is three-fold, making a divided responsibility between production, transportation and distribution. She advised the pasteurization of milk, as from 25 to 60 per cent. of cows react to the tuberculin test. She stated the astounding fact that since the use of certified milk in the San Francisco Foundling Home, the mortality of the babies had fallen from 55 or 60 per cent. to 5 or 6 per cent., the latter rate being lower than that of babies in the community at large, which is about 9 per cent.

She advised housewives to consider more seriously the sediment at the bottom of the milk than the cream at the top. Patience

with the 6 o'clock delivery rule was also advised, as things done by daylight are better done than in the dark. The "Home of Certified Milk" in Marin county, which is visited every Sunday by four or five hundred people, has given a wonderful education to many in a correct standard of milk production and handling.

## COLORADO

**Proper Dress for School Girls Recommended—Colorado Congress Conducts Home Making Course for High School Girls—Pueblo Mothers Secure Playground—Better Sanitation Laws—Half Fares for Children on Street Cars—Pueblo Mothers Have Moving Picture Machine Installed in High School**

### THE PROPER DRESS FOR SCHOOL GIRLS.

The Council of Presidents and Educational Committee of the Denver District is calling the attention of parents to the importance of proper dress for school girls.

The following message has been sent to each circle:

### TO THE PRESIDENT:

Please have this report read at the next regular meeting of your circle by the representative or your secretary.

Report of Council of Presidents and Educational Committee Denver District.  
Colorado Congress of Mothers.

The subject for discussion at the December meeting was "The Proper Dress for School Girls." It was recommended that dark colored bloomers, or of material like the dress, be worn by girls in the grades—because they attract less attention, give more freedom, are inexpensive and are labor-saving from the standpoint of laundering. Many features of the modern styles were approved as being more comfortable and more hygienic than those of former days. Such as:

The loose waists, middy blouses, the moderately narrow skirts of light weight material, the round or Dutch neck, sensible shoes and stockings, suitable underwear, well combed hair, simply arranged, and the natural complexion. All extremes in style were deplored. Such as:

Thin waists, very low necks, narrow slit skirts, high heels and thin soled shoes, thin, gauzy hose, insufficient underwear, frowsley hair and made-up complexions. The question of the expense of dressing a high school girl was discussed and it was stated that in some cases the expense made

a high school course prohibitive. One mother reported that she had dressed two girls for the past two years on an average of \$18 a year for school dresses, by using the Peter Thompsons. Not a uniform, but greater uniformity in style of dress, combining modesty, simplicity, utility and beauty was recommended. Mothers and teachers should realize that influence of example in matters of dress is much greater than precept.

It was asserted that no one admires those girls who dress simply to attract attention, for they fail to realize that clothes are an indication of character and that people of good taste admire a well-groomed girl. On the whole, it was generally conceded that in spite of the extreme modes now in vogue among the few, the great majority of girls dress more sensibly than ever before.

Signed. JENETTE H. BOLLES,  
*Chairman.*  
MRS. GEO. VARNUM,  
*Secretary.*

Mrs. Fred. Dick, President of the Colorado State Congress, has requested that these messages be read before each circle, and free discussion following each reading is invited.

It is difficult to estimate the great good that is being received by the mothers who are in Mrs. Anna Noble's Class on the Responsibilities of Motherhood.

In the Pueblo District, through the influence of the Congress, the two School Boards have promised \$750 and the Park Board has agreed to give \$750 for an experimental playground on the north and south sides of the city. They will have a paid supervisor from the National Playgrounds Association.

Other work has been done by the Congress in Pueblo. It has secured better sanitation laws, the city having passed a special ordinance requiring registration of all tuberculosis patients and the listing and fumigating of their apartments to safeguard the public.

The Congress secured half-fares for children on street cars.

The high schools of Pueblo and the commercial bodies are co-operating successfully in a movement to insure vocational training to the pupils of the schools.

Moving picture machines have been installed in the high schools. This was also owing to the suggestion of the Mothers' Congress of Pueblo.

Everywhere, there is "forward" move-

ment, showing Colorado's alertness to the work for the children. The schools are in accord with the co-operative spirit and our president, Mrs. Dick, is receiving inquiries daily, which encourage her and her co-workers to feel that the Mothers' Congress of Colorado, has a foundation of rock upon which to build a glorious future.

#### FLORIDA

A parent-teacher association has been organized in Tavares. Among the things we have accomplished are the following: Asked for another teacher; she is at work. Had walls tinted, plaster patched, floors cleaned, a more competent janitor hired, shades for the windows; closets cleaned of the accumulated trash such as boxes, old boards, stoves, etc.; petitioned the trustees to have the water closets put in a sanitary condition, and they did so. We did several other tasks of the same order and will soon be ready for other work. Next week we are to have our school fair. The association is only a few months old so that we feel an important beginning has been made.

#### GEORGIA

**Annual Convention Georgia Branch National Congress of Mother and Parent-Teacher Associations to Meet in Atlanta March 14—The State offers prizes to Mothers Classes and Parent-Teacher Associations having the greatest number of membership cards in the Congress of Mothers**

The annual convention of the Georgia branch National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Association will meet in Atlanta, March 14.

Georgia should lead in the work of the Mothers' Congress, for Georgia was the home of the founder and because the people of Georgia realize that the future prosperity of the state depends upon the proper development of the children of to-day who become the citizens of to-morrow.

Mrs. Little, State president, has worked untiringly to advance the opportunities for mothers and children of Georgia. She has sent this message throughout the entire State through the valuable aid of the press of the State.

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF MOTHERS ILLUSTRATES THE POTENT POWER OF ORGANIZATION.

All great world movements have been accomplished by concerted effort. Only within the recent past have women under-



stood the value of organized effort and even now its full force is not universally appreciated. When all the women of all the world unite to some one definite desire, that desire will be gratified *be it what it may*. This is an absolute axiom.

Thousands and thousands of women throughout the world are already agreed that in protecting and developing the child the greatest world benefit will be reached. These women compose the National and International Congress of Mothers. They realize, too, that education of the parent is the first step in this direction. For this purpose they have banded themselves together in a regularly organized body whose purpose it is to disseminate knowledge and to furnish to each member the literature, the specific instruction and the personal aid which enables each member to pass this instruction on to her neighbor.

#### UNITY, COMMUNITY AND IMMUNITY.

In answering the question "What Does the Congress of Mothers do?" it will be easy to remember that this organized body of women is constantly working for the Unity of Purpose; Community of Interest and Immunity from Error. No individual member can ever hope to attain this great trinity alone. The individual is merely an atom floating on the swift current of humanity. But if this individual woman holds a membership in the Congress of Mothers through her own state body, she at once becomes a factor in a marvellous movement for the good of the child, for the preservation of the home, for the improvement of the school, for the encouragement of the church and for the advancement of universal progress.

#### OUR PRIZE OFFER.

In order to encourage increased membership in Mothers classes, and Parent-Teacher Associations throughout the state of Georgia, the Mothers' Congress offers three prizes to be used for the benefit of the club showing the greatest number of members holding membership cards in the Congress of Mothers. These prizes are as follows:

\$10 for the first prize; \$5 for the second, and a year's subscription to the very helpful CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE for the third prize.

This contest closes June 1st. Further details on application to,

MRS. J. R. LITTLE, *President*,  
Peachtree Road, Atlanta, Ga.

#### DOES YOUR CLUB NEED MORE MEMBERS?

Many clubs and classes of mothers would be helped in usefulness if the membership were larger. It is not always easy to create interest in the minds of mothers, especially very busy mothers who think they cannot afford the time necessary to attend these meetings. As a matter of fact they cannot afford not to take this time. But in order to convince them of this, and also in order to reach them in the right way and at the proper time and place, there have been many plans tried. Some have been found more effectual than others, and in this, as in almost all our modern needs, the "expert" is best able to advise.

If you would like the advice of this "expert" on getting members, you have only to write the membership committee of the Mothers' Congress, Loan & Trust Building, Washington, D. C., inclose a one-cent stamp and receive a booklet on this subject prepared by an expert. It is certainly worth trying if you are interested in the success of your Mothers' Class or of your Parent-Teacher Club.

#### PREVENTION THE PRESENT KEYNOTE OF CHILD PROTECTION.

In considering subjects for discussion among mothers at parent-teacher meetings or mothers' classes in the churches the subject of prevention as a factor in child protection should be carefully considered. This subject can be easily handled if properly divided and carefully planned.

A body of interested women in Auburn, N. Y., recently held a meeting which it would be well for women everywhere to imitate. The meeting was held in the form of a general discussion and the subject was divided in the following way:

1. Prevention of Infant Mortality.
2. Prevention of Juvenile Crime.
3. Working for Civic Betterment.

These subjects were presented to the meeting in the form of certain questions, the questions having been given out in advance and the persons having their answers prepared when called upon.

Under the first subject came the following:

Infant mortality can be prevented, first, by a free maternity ward in every city hospital; second, by better care of mothers before the birth of the child; third, happy conditions of mind before the birth of a child; fourth, adequate wage for the father to prevent worry; fifth, pure milk supply; sixth, educating parents; seventh, laws

preventing marriage of the unfit; eighth, making known the great danger of soothing syrups. .

Under the head of "Prevention of Juvenile Crime," the following measures were advocated: A healthy outlet for children's energies; responsibilities felt by parents; social centers; playgrounds; vocational schools.

Under the suggestions for civic betterment, home and school gardens were mentioned; also an indorsement of the Boy Scout movement, of the Camp Fire Girl movement and the better keeping of lawns and backyards as well as the teaching of children to plant trees and shrubs and properly care for them. Another subject suggested was the "Protection of Wild Birds."

These discussions were most interesting and could not fail to prove of infinite value and importance to any community. It is for this reason that the annual meetings are most valuable and every mother will realize the many advantages to her own individual methods in the home, the school or the town if these methods are compared intelligently and thoughtfully with those used by other mothers. For this reason it is always hoped that the annual state meetings will be well attended.

#### GEORGIA'S PLACE IN THE CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE.

The CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE is the official organ of the Mothers' Congress and it is devoted to reporting the work of this organization and of the Parent-Teacher Clubs throughout the country. It cannot fail to prove very helpful to every mother, whether she is a club member or not, as it covers the entire field of child rearing and problems which beset it. It is especially helpful to Parent-Teacher Clubs as it gives full accounts of what other clubs are doing and of prominence they are assuming as a factor for civic betterment.

#### ILLINOIS

The Mid-Winter Conference of the Illinois Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, held at Bloomington, was unusually important and successful. The invitation to hold this conference there was most cordial and urgent.

The afternoon session was attended by 300 people, the evening session by 500, and in each audience there were a large number of teachers, many from the city schools, some from out of town.

The Bloomington clubs have accomplished many fine things, but they are eager to know more of the Parent-Teacher movement of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

In School District 76, Evanston, the neighborhood activities carried on in the schools are most interesting and remarkable in their results.

"The Central Street Mothers' Club had for its mission first, to make a central meeting place for the rapidly increasing population in the locality, that mutual social interests might be discovered and serve as a basis for forming friendships."

"A meeting is arranged to outline a year's plan of study for each grade, and supplementary reading courses will be formulated for the mothers."

"A Social Survey Committee has been formed consisting of ministers, physicians, probation officers and citizens, whose duty it is to inform themselves and each other as to the various needs in the locality."

"A Tuesday evening dancing class for house-helpers and their escorts is developing."

"Four gymnastic dancing classes have been in operation successfully for three years, for women, high-school pupils and younger people."

"A Nature Study Committee has worked for two years to keep the children awake to the wonderful changes which nature constantly presents: The interdependence of birds, bees, flowers, etc., and the contributions of nature to man's comfort and convenience. In each schoolroom there is being made a collection of seeds, bulbs, fish and crystals, with some growing thing in each collection. The committee corrects and approves these collections and arranges them on display so the children may see each others' work."

"As a result of constant appeal and effort for two years, our School Board, this year, decided that the school buildings could be used free by any public responsible organization for any legitimate purpose. Heretofore varying charges have been made for rental, light, heat and janitor service."

#### MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts is full of life this winter, and there is a simultaneous awakening of parents in all parts of the State.

In the city of Worcester, where the population numbers 166,000, a regular campaign has been in progress. There have been formed 17 parent-teacher associations, in connection with the schools, within

the past month, which, together with the three already existing, bring the number of members up to 800 in this one city.

This campaign was preceded by a mass-meeting to which every parent in the city having children in the public schools received a personal invitation. The speakers engaged were of sufficient note, and the message they had come to bring of sufficient interest to the parents to fill the largest hall in the city in spite of the inclement weather outside. They were Dr. Philander P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, and Mrs. Frederic Schoff, our National President.

Mrs. Schoff gave an inspiring address on the necessity of the associations for the training of the coming generation, and of the wonderful results already accomplished by similar organizations in other States. She spoke especially of the usefulness of our new Home Education Department in the United States Bureau of Education, and of the great assistance rendered by the opening of this division by Dr. Claxton. Dr. Claxton, in his practical educational address of over an hour, held his audience spellbound, and when at the end the audience was requested to respond with a song, written especially for Worcester, the grand chorus of voices filled the auditorium with a volume of harmony that showed that all were one in their loyalty to their loved city. One hundred and twenty voices from the North High School, under the efficient leadership of Mr. Charles Rice, the music director of the public schools, added to the brightness of the occasion, while a rare organ recital preceded and succeeded the meeting. The warm welcome by the Mayor, Hon. George M. Wright, and the presence on the platform of the presidents of the educational, philanthropic, and charitable societies, who had received personal invitations from his Honor the Mayor, added to the dignity of the occasion.

After half past ten, when the audience had joined in singing our National hymn and had been formally dismissed, there still lingered many interested groups loth to go home, while the glee club sang one of its sweetest songs.

This was the beginning of the work. This is the city, which, with its famous Clark University and its noted Dr. G. Stanley Hall, has stood foremost in its advocacy of normal child life and child culture. The age of the child has progressed until now it includes the parent as well, and the school-room, instead of being confined to small desks and chairs,

must be planned in the future so as to be utilized as a meeting place for parents and teachers, for the young people of the neighborhood, as a place of instruction, a civic and a social centre, with a hall large enough to accommodate all who want to come,—the gatherings to be under the supervision of a committee appointed from the local parent-teacher association.

The presidents of these associations formed in Worcester, together with the Mayor, the presidents, and delegates from the Chamber of Commerce, Publicity Committee, Public Education Association, Clark University, Twentieth Century Club, Womens' Club Welfare League, Teachers' Clubs, etc., combine and form a Central Council which meets once a month for the purpose of mutual help and the advancement of the work throughout the city.

This Central Council forms a clearing house. The local presidents know the needs of their community and the educational and philanthropic societies respond by suggesting and securing speakers and helping to supply their needs. The Council will keep the various parent-teacher associations in close touch with each other so that in case a mass-meeting or the State convention shall be held in the city, the people will readily combine to make preparations and secure its success. Worcester is anticipating welcoming the Massachusetts Convention next October, and the new High School Hall, just being built, which is to accommodate eleven hundred, has been offered as a place of meeting. The headquarters will be at the new Hotel Bancroft.

### MISSOURI

**State Convention in Springfield—University of Missouri Issues Bulletin and Advises Organization in Schools—P. P. Phillips and Wm. P. Evans, State School Superintendents, Endorse Mothers' Congress—Maplewood Mothers Organize—Kirksville Mothers and Teachers Reorganize—Series of Open Meetings in St. Louis**

The invitation of the Springfield Council of Mothers to the Missouri Branch National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations to hold the second annual convention in Springfield was accepted and the meeting will open at 8 p.m., April 14, and continue until the 17th.

There are now eight organizations in Springfield and the Council was organized recently in order that a more systematic study of the conditions and problems of childhood might be made, and ways and

means provided whereby these conditions might be improved.

The co-operative work of these several organizations has been the keynote of their success, and their efficient work in connection with the schools, as well as in censoring moving picture and vaudeville shows has won the admiration of all who are interested in having a clean city.

The State organization is to be congratulated in that it will have an opportunity to see and know more about the work of this pioneer organization, since the work was well established in Springfield and they were members of the National Congress two years before the State was organized, hence it seems altogether apropos for this second meeting and first election to be held in Springfield, and all members and friends are anxiously awaiting the coming event.

The Kansas City delegates will be invited to spend the intervening days between the State Convention in Springfield and the International in Washington with members in St. Louis; thus a continuous two weeks of pleasure is in store for those who have labored so faithfully for the past two years.

The University of Missouri is sending out a bulletin which will be of vital importance to the Missouri organization, since it not only approves and endorses the organization of Mothers' Clubs and Parent-Teacher Associations in the school but urges that they become members of the Congress of Mothers.

This bulletin contains suggestions for Superintendents and Principals, Results of Organized Energy, Dissipated Energy, How to Organize, Suggested Programs and an offer from the University to send some one to help organize, provided travelling expenses are paid. It would be hard to conceive of a more sympathetic support and coming as it does from such recognized authority the Mothers' Congress of Missouri should grow by leaps and bounds, and the State officers and members feel very grateful for this most excellent assistance so freely given and will endeavor to make the State organization worthy of such support.

Copies of these bulletins should be in the hands of every parent and teacher in the State and will be sent free to all who send their name and address to the secretary, S. D. Gromer, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.

Mr. P. P. Phillips, the newly elected State Superintendent of Schools, has

recently written the President of the Missouri Congress of Mothers saying he hopes to be able to help the organization in its new field of labor and Wm. P. Evans, the former State Superintendent of Schools, is co-operating and says among the interesting developments in connection with the recent history of education is the fact that educators are seeking alliances on all sides amongst those who are laboring to upbuild the various sociological needs of the community.

"The time was when the schoolmaster shut himself up in his cloister and gave his thought almost exclusively to the past.

"The demands for progress made by his patrons have forced him out into the open and now he looks for aid and co-operation.

"Amongst the alliances that he finds ready to his hand are the various Women's Organizations aiming at progress in special lines. The National Congress of Mothers, Parent-Teacher Associations *have already shown their value*, and I gladly take this opportunity to acknowledge the feeling of deep appreciation for the assistance that has come and is to come, from the Missouri branch.

"Much will be gained when parents cease to feel that their children's education is to be done at school. Too much have the parents abdicated their precious privileges and they cannot too soon resume the joys and satisfaction of discharging this essential part of their work—the training of their children."

A recent communication from Mrs. W. B. Curry, president of the Kirksville Mothers' Club, states that their Mothers' Club has recently reorganized under the name of the Kirksville Parent-Teacher Association, with forty-three members, and the teachers in the majority; surely the fathers and mothers of Kirksville will not let this condition obtain for long, for in that case the impression might be gained that the teachers were interested in benefitting the children, whereas many of the parents were not.

Maplewood has recently organized a Mothers' Club in the school under very favorable circumstances and their activity already shows that they will be a credit to their city and to the State organization. They have established a Circulating Library in the school and have been given space—a column each week—in the city newspaper. Mrs. S. O. Ware is president of this new club.

St. Louis has inaugurated a series of open meetings for fathers, mothers and



teachers to bring all organizations in the city and vicinity into closer touch with the work as a whole and to stimulate the growth in the organization. The first of these meetings will be held in the First Presbyterian Church, in the central part of the city and within easy reach of all organizations in the city and county. The second meeting will be held on the south side. The third in the county, and the fourth in the west end.

The general outlook for much and lasting good through the activities of the members is very promising.

#### NEW YORK

A large and enthusiastic meeting of the executive board of the Mothers' Assembly of the State of New York was held at Oneida on January 29 and 30. Present were the following members: Mrs. Henry Osgood Holland, President; Mrs. George M. Turner, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Edgar Winters, Chairman of Nature Study, of Buffalo; Mrs. E. A. Tuttle, Historian, New York; Mrs. E. H. Merrell, Chairman, of Hygiene, Syracuse; Mrs. E. C. Metcalf, First Vice-President, Westmoreland; Mrs. B. S. Cushman, Corresponding Secretary, of Ithaca; Mrs. C. S. Hoyt, of Auburn, Chairman of Child Study; Mrs. M. C. Halley, of Lockport, Chairman of Extension; Mrs. Lucinda Ashtenau, Oneida, Chairman of Church Clubs; Mrs. Joseph Beal, Oneida, Chairman of Legislation; Mrs. Fremont Chapin, President of the Oneida Mothers' Club; Mrs. J. M. Roberts, President of the Bellview Heights Mothers' Club, of Syracuse, and Miss J. Adele Raynor, a former officer, who is about to leave to make her home in San Francisco, were guests, each at one meeting of the session.

Reports were received and plans made for a wider extension of the work throughout the State. The President, during her three months of office, has sent a letter to each club in the assembly and has written over 250 letters in behalf of the work. She has visited and spoken before clubs in Buffalo, Waverly, Erie, Pa., Corning, Bath, Perry, Hornell and Binghamton and is keeping closely in touch with cities where there are organizations not yet affiliated.

The various chairmen reported the names of two members of their committees or if unable to do so, were assisted by suggestions from the board.

The Chairman of Nature Study had outlined a fine plan of work to recommend to the affiliated clubs.

The Chairman of Extension has a com-

mittee of twelve women, representing the entire State, who will speak before clubs needing assistance. The Chairman of Parent-Teacher meetings is very active, and reported encouraging progress with the work in central New York.

Duties of officers and chairmen were discussed and defined; plans were made for a banquet; better methods of election discussed; suggestions made as to ways of replenishing the treasury for the added expense of active work; suggestions to the legislative committee about anticipating work in that department, and securing co-operation of all affiliated clubs. A program committee was appointed. The board unanimously voted to accept the invitation extended by the Mothers' Club of Buffalo, New York, to hold the 1914 Assembly in that city.

The visiting women were most hospitably entertained by the local club women. An honored citizen of Oneida showed his loyalty by making his wife and himself life members of the Assembly. The next meeting of the executive board will be in Albany on March 31 and April 1.

Albany mothers are interested in the Mothers' Pension. At a recent luncheon there, Robert M. Hebbard, of the State board of charities, talked on Home Assistance for Widowed Mothers.

Mr. Hebbard said it was his belief that if individual cases were handled by the State instead of by several charitable associations, there would be fewer children in private institutions, paid for at public expense. He said a widowed mother and her children should be regarded as the wards of the State, and that such a mother had her work already at hand in training and caring for her children properly, without having to seek employment for their support. He deplored the course of some private charitable organizations in breaking up homes and putting children in institutions. Mr. Hebbard explained that while the private charities have the best intentions in the world, they have not the means to cope with this problem; but he said that they are not brave enough to admit this fact.

He declared it had been the efforts of private, charitable organizations which had defeated several bills in the legislature calling for the pensioning of widowed mothers. He recommended the appointment of a commission which would give its services for love of humanity, with no compensation; which would see that the money provided by the State was wisely expended.

He emphatically declared that when a State like New York could expend \$200,000,000 a year for liquor, it could afford to take care of its widowed mothers and their children.

#### HIS SUFFRAGE ARGUMENT.

He closed by declaring that if he had any reason for believing women should vote it was that he was convinced they would vote for the preservation of the home against the encroachment of the saloon.

Mrs. W. W. Lenox, president of the Mothers' Club, endorsed Mr. Hebbard's views and said that the State Association of Mothers had been working for the passage of the Mothers' Pension Bill for two years.

#### NORTH CAROLINA

##### North Carolina Asks Organization of State Branch National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations

In Newton, N. C., a United Farm Women's Club has done splendid work for the schools of that country. In co-operation with the Farmers Union a model school building has been built, painted inside and out, with curtains and shades in all the rooms, good pictures, and a piano. A county club has been organized and hopes to have a woman assistant for the county superintendent of schools. A co-operative creamery has been established and a co-operative laundry is soon to be opened. Last year the first rural education agricultural fair was held with everything free and no fakes. It was a great success. One hundred horses and cows were exhibited and many other things. The only prizes were blue ribbons and it cost one hundred dollars for the fair. There were several money prizes in the corn club work for boys and also in the display of farm women's club work. A better baby show was one feature. The object of the fair was to promote education.

Mrs. Frederic Schoff and Mrs. Anna Steese Richardson spoke on the Mothers' Congress and Baby Saving at the Social Service Conference in Raleigh, February 14th. Parent-Teacher Associations and Mothers' Clubs are being organized in different parts of North Carolina and much interest is shown in the Mothers' Congress work. When this goes to press it is too early to report the results of the work of Mrs. Schoff and Mrs. Richardson in North Carolina.

#### NORTH DAKOTA

The winters in North Dakota are so severe that it is difficult to do much State work in that season. Mrs. Acher, State Organizer, reports that the city superintendent of Valley City desires to have a Parent-Teacher Association formed in each school building and that associations are being organized as rapidly as possible. The Mothers' Club of Valley City has secured space in the evening paper, and once a week Child-Welfare material is given to its readers. In this way homes are reached which would not be reached in any other way.

Plans are being made for a Child-Welfare exhibit and a better babies' contest during the Chautauqua season. Extensive work throughout the State of North Dakota is being arranged for next fall.

#### OHIO

The Cleveland Congress of Mothers listened with deep interest to Mrs. Zoritz D. Furnajieff at their monthly meeting February 3d. Mrs. J. A. Smith, State President, presided.

One of the members said: "I wish I had a million dollars that I might give it to help the orphans and the widowed mothers of Bulgaria." Mrs. Furnajieff won all hearts, and the common hand of motherhood united in sympathy and love with the mothers of Cleveland and of poor suffering Bulgaria.

Canton has given warm approval to the organization of Parent-Teacher Associations. Miss Maud Moore, who, for ten years has been the Supervisor of Primary Schools, says:

"These Parent-Teacher Associations correct many misunderstandings.

"They have been the means of correcting many, many misunderstandings between parents and teachers; they have been the means of correcting many faults and afflictions of the children; they have brought the parents into closer touch with the schools and the teachers, and while some may think this has caused some misunderstanding, if viewed from an intelligent standpoint they have been an instrument for the solution of past misunderstandings, and misunderstandings of long standing.

"They have further accomplished what no other institution on the face of the earth could accomplish and that is the *scientific study of the child*, and why give less study to the children than to hogs, cattle, dogs, plants, etc.? Aren't the

children of greater importance not only to the home but to the whole universe? Ask the parents who attend the child-study classes about this."

The mothers are unanimous in their appreciation of all that the Parent-Teacher Associations have done for them and their children.

Four Parent-Teacher Associations in Canton have joined the Congress in the last month. All the district associations in Canton will soon join the State and National Congress. Miss Moore has given enthusiastic service in organizing the Parent-Teacher Associations and has had the support of the best citizens of Canton. So great has been the interest awakened that adjoining counties are asking her to help them inaugurate the work.

The city union of Parent-Teacher Associations, composed of delegates from 11 of the 12 district associations of the city, was organized in January. The delegates adopted the Parent-Teacher Co-Operative Congress as the official name.

P. M. Seymour, 1620 Cleveland Avenue, N. W., was elected president; Mrs. F. E. Barber, 915 Eighth Street, N. W., vice-president, and Miss Emily Wheeler, teacher in the Hartford school, secretary-treasurer.

Each of the eleven district associations which had endorsed the movement was represented by at least two members.

Orrville organized a Parent-Teacher Association through the presentation of the benefits derived from such organization.

Mrs. J. A. Smith has visited Bedford and Youngstown and finds great interest all over the State.

## OREGON

### Oregon Luncheon

The Oregonians will give a "Made-in Oregon" luncheon for the National and International officers. President Wilson, Senators Lane and Chamberlain and the managing editors of the leading papers will be among those invited. Oregon fir, Oregon grape and holly will be taken East to decorate the dining hall where the banquet will be spread. Through the courtesy of the Portland Commercial Club C. C. Chapman will arrange for the exhibition of stereopticon pictures showing the beauty spots of Oregon and the magnificent buildings that illustrate the substantial business standing of this city.

State Game Warden, J. A. Finley, has written the Oregon Congress of Mothers that he will contribute a pair of Oregon pheasants to the Oregon display at the National Mothers' Congress, which is to be

held in Washington, D. C., April 22 to 27. The congresses of California, Washington and Idaho have been invited to join the Oregon congress in a special excursion east to attend this convention and it is expected that the western delegation will be very large.

Governor West issued a proclamation making February 17 Child-Welfare Day in Oregon.

### SCHOOL SURVEY CONDENSED FOR STUDY.

A committee from the Oregon Congress of Mothers, under the supervision of Mrs. Aristene Felts, president, has made a synopsis of the report of the survey of the public schools of Portland, which will be of aid to every association in the State. This outline is condensed, yet complete, and shows how associations are helping in every way the child's interests as relate to his personal care, school buildings, the teaching force system of instruction kindergarten thoughts, trade schools, playgrounds, etc. The Portland Parent-Teacher Associations are devoting 15 minutes of each meeting to a study of the survey.

The Dependent Widows' Pension Bill, which was framed and put through the legislature by a committee from the Oregon Congress of Mothers, headed by Mrs. R. E. Bondurant, seems to be efficient but to insure this the committee is writing to every county judge in the State asking in what way he considers the pension bill may be strengthened.

The Juvenile Court Committee, of which Mrs. C. W. Hayhurst is chairman, furnished much Christmas cheer to the several institutions of the city, being effectively aided in the work by the Portland members of the congress. This committee was instrumental in getting the County Commissioners interested in segregating the delinquent children from the dependents at the County Home and there is to be an addition built to the home.

The Parent-Teacher Council, in Portland, now that it has the active support of City Superintendent and School Board, is broadening in its educational activities and in many cases taking the lead in aggressive and progressive lines of work. One circle inaugurated a baking contest and invited parents to pass judgment; another has a parliamentary drill, another a lecture on the Resources of Oregon, another is working to purchase the land now rented for school gardens, another has arranged a loan art exhibit of high order which has led to the gift of several valuable pictures as a nucleus for a permanent exhibit, and



at least four schools are now furnishing five-cent hot lunches to more than five hundred small students. Another school has been conducting a series of visits to the various important industrial plants in and adjacent to the city and as spring is now with us, school gardening is interesting every one of the 52 city circles.

A noted function of the Central City Council of Parent-Teacher Associations was a luncheon at the Hotel Oregon in celebration of the organization of the fifty-second Parent-Teacher circle in the city of Portland, so finishing the completed organization of all the schools through the efforts of the Central Council. In response to a general invitation 354 members and friends gathered in the lunch room and a rousing good time was assured.

The organization of Parent-Teacher Associations outside the city of Portland is progressing rapidly. Recently Boring, Baker, Bellview, Banks, Linnton, Powell Valley, Orient and Tigard have been organized and affiliated with the State organization.

Outlines for topics for rural associations have been prepared by the Congress of Mothers and were issued in printed form by State Superintendent Churchill in the form of pamphlets.

#### MULTNOMAH'S NEW ASSOCIATION.

The Multnomah school has recently organized an enthusiastic and active Parent-Teacher Association, having a membership of 43, although the school is one of the smallest in the district, there being but 30 children enrolled and only 20 families living in the neighborhood. At its meeting, held Wednesday, six new members were received.

The Parent-Teachers' Educational Bureau at the county court house is doing double duty in the testing of babies, as the regular test day on Wednesday is augmented by a city circle test day Thursdays, when little people from the different circles of the city are brought. This work is being superintended and carried on by voluntary help and is accomplishing more than ever before, as the interest is intense. Mrs. Aristene Felts, president of the Congress, is giving her personal attention to this as well as all other branches of the work and is at her desk at the bureau daily.

Mrs. Felts is also giving much attention to the extension department and her wonderful executive ability is causing the different committees to feel that she is right in saying that one thousand new circles are to be organized in Oregon this year. A course

of lectures are being given this winter. Those for February are:

February 6—Maternal Nursing, Wet-nursing and Weaning, Dr. Joseph Bilderback.

February 13—The Pure Milk Problem, Mrs. H. M. Bransford.

February 20—Sleep, Breathing and Fresh Air, Miss Gertrude Churchman.

February 27—Modified Milk, Dr. R. G. Hall.

In Oregon, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Churchill, that more interest may be taken in Parent-Teacher Associations, is mailing pamphlets giving suggestions to all parts of the State.

"It is the purpose," says the pamphlet, "to give every parent in the district an opportunity to know what the school is endeavoring to accomplish, what it might be able to accomplish, if it were using all its resources, and to find out what these resources are."

"The teacher is of first importance—so always secure the best man or woman possible. Then ask the questions: Is our school sanitary? Has it modern conveniences? Are all the roads and paths leading to it in good condition? Are all the children in the district able to attend school? Has our school playgrounds, and are they being used in the most helpful way? Are we taking advantage of the free extension course lectures offered by the State University and Agricultural Colleges?"

"Do we mothers take opportunity to confer together regarding the most important of all problems—how best to fit our boys and girls for manhood and womanhood? These and many other questions are being considered by the Parent-Teacher Associations all over the State, and the entire United States. Organize at once, see that your circle joins the State Association and the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher State officers will help you by advice."

There are 3500 school districts in the State and Superintendent Churchill hopes the Congress will organize 1000 Parent-Teacher Associations this year. Five women in Portland are giving their time to organizing. A state-wide campaign for Child-Welfare was made from February 17 to 21. All the schools of the State were asked to co-operate.

Mrs. O. E. Lent, at a luncheon given by the Oregon Congress, spoke on moving pictures as follows:

Motion pictures are one of the most important and practical educational problems which confront students of children. There are 10,000 moving picture shows in America,



whose audience is ten times that of all other theatres combined. They do a business of more than \$100,000,000 per year, are the main recreational resource of millions of children and wage earners—the blood and sinew of America. Over 1,000,000 children each day view the moving picture. (I have taken these statistics from the last annual report of the National Board of Censorship of New York City.) This Board of Censorship passes about 100 sample films each week. These films if approved are duplicated 100 times for distribution in the United States. No city or state as yet has passed a thoroughly scientific law regulating this great traffic, yet motion pictures have become one of the important problems of moral and physical safety for which government is responsible. This should be controlled in some cases by state law, in some by local ordinance, in others by administrative discretion.

Motion pictures utilize the whole range of dramatic topic; are a form of journalism, of educational discussion; by the addition of lectures or the use of music, can be made to interpret any theme, lesson, and all emotions. There is no limit to their educational value, but we cannot regulate by getting after the people who run the theatres. They only show what the film distributing companies are able to give them. We cannot make the film men send any certain kind of film, as he can only send what he has in stock, and he cannot get enough educational films to go around.

Thus far the general public has been demanding pictures for amusement only, not for education. This is natural. The working adult uses the show to enliven as a change from work. So light comedy, drama, Indian and cowboy fights predominate. These things, while not bad, are not just the things our growing boys and girls, with their plastic minds, need.

Let me say just here, to illustrate my point, last spring I was in attendance at the Reed College Conference for the Conservation of Human Life, where I heard many wonderful talks on the various subjects in which I was interested. To-day I can scarce recollect a sentence, but the dental film they showed is as vivid in my mind's eye as when I saw it. If this be true of my old tired brain, what must the effect be on the impressionable minds of our children? So we should do something to put a lesson not misleading in the moving picture shows. Film programs cannot be adapted alone to children, but as children are the greatest observers, let us demand of

the film manufacturers, of which there are about thirty-five companies, more educational films. Then let us ask the film distributing agencies to send out two educational films among the four films now sent to local shows. These educational films should be industrial, scientific, historical or scenic. As a matter of truth, some of our local shows, especially in the outside districts, are showing all four films of melodrama or light love stories, that give no lesson the child could grasp, and often leave a wrong impression for him to carry home.

Let us ask all cheap vaudeville to be discontinued in connection with moving pictures. Let us ask our school boards to add moving pictures as an educational feature as soon as practicable. Let us ask our city park boards to install moving pictures in public playgrounds. I feel we as a State and National Congress of Mothers may successfully ask this.

### PENNSYLVANIA

A large oil print of the Sistine Madonna was presented by the president, Mrs. George K. Johnson, as a Christmas gift to the Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers for its State headquarters, 1302 Spruce Street, Philadelphia. It is a particularly fine production from the Medici Society in London, done by the process of engraving on stone and printing in oil.

Mrs. Johnson has been invited to address many of the associations in membership this winter. The Frankford Mothers' Club, The Mothers-in-Council of Lansdowne, The Allentown Parent-Teacher Associations and others have received the inspiration that can come only through hearing a chief officer outline the work.

The service of the Executive Secretary on duty in the office at 1302 Spruce Street is proving just how great is the volume of business and is showing the great value of having a skilled worker to attend to the many calls and large correspondence in addition to the clerical work incident to continuing growth.

New associations are reported as formed and affiliated each month, as is also reported increasing strength and interest in the older associations. Two applications for Scholarship in University of Pennsylvania summer school have been received.

Mrs. Alfred C. Balch, as Chairman of Finance, arranged an entertainment, to be given in the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel March 6th. This was planned to add to the funds for extension work and office maintenance.

One afternoon each month the board

rooms will be opened for informally receiving visiting friends and associate members. This will form a closer bond, through personal acquaintance of the co-workers.

The Philadelphia County Association of Presidents was formed in January with Mrs. Walter Brinton, of Frankford Mothers' Club, as President; Mrs. M. Driefus, of Joseph Leidy Association, as Secretary. This county association will correlate the work, giving that union in effort which makes for thoroughness and completion in achieving. Meetings first Friday in each month.

On January 17th the president, Mrs. George K. Johnson, and the executive board, gave a testimonial luncheon to Mrs. Frederic Schoff at the Bellevue-Stratford. Among the guests were Mrs. H. Prenhiss Nichols, president of the New Century Club; Mrs. Rudolph Blankenburg, wife of Philadelphia's Mayor; Mrs. Edward W. Biddle, Vice-President Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers; Mrs. Hageman, wife of the Consul General from Belgium, and many other distinguished guests, each representing some work of worth. The presence at the tables of some members of the Advisory Council proved a pleasing innovation. Mr. Frederic Schoff, Mr. George K. Johnson and Dr. William P. Wilson, each of whom had followed the work of the Congress from its infancy, declared firm belief in its worth, helpfulness and wholesome growth.

Delegates have been appointed to the Third International Child-Welfare Conference in April.

Dr. J. George Becht was present and made an interesting report as Chairman of Education at January board meeting. The successful working of the "School Credit for Home Work" system was one point he emphasized; parents being exact in making the score cards.

#### **RHODE ISLAND**

##### **Rhode Island Congress of Mothers Enlists Seven Other Organizations—Physicians and Board of Health in Baby Saving Work—Plans to Extend Work all over the State**

The movement to "save the babies," which has swept over the country, is probably the most effective activity of the present day for child-welfare and the use of preventive medicine in the home.

This movement for baby welfare was first undertaken under the auspices of the committee on hygiene of the Congress of Mothers, Mrs. Donald Churchill opening the first free baby consultation at the

Willard Avenue home training school in March, 1912. This work did not seem to meet the needs of the mothers of that location and so it was transferred to Grace Memorial Home on Delaine Street, in Olneyville, in February, 1913. Free baby consultations were also opened at the Sprague House Settlement in June, 1912; at the South Main Street District Settlement on July 7, 1918; at the old Branch Avenue school the same month, and at the North End Dispensary on January 6, 1914.

The last station is in its infancy and but few mothers and babies have appeared as yet, but at the Atwell's Avenue Settlement as many as 20 babies put in an appearance on the day of consultation; at South Main Street the largest number yet appearing was 11; at Branch Avenue 14 appear at a time, and at Olneyville there are from 10 to 15 babies every Saturday afternoon.

The object of this work is to teach mothers how to care for their young children properly, especially how to feed them properly so as to avoid nutritional disturbances; to induce mothers to bring their babies to the consultation, where they are weighed by a district nurse in attendance, examined by the physicians in charge and advice given in all matters pertaining to the health of baby, such as proper clothing and food, general cleanliness, amount of sleep, etc.

Each mother receives a card on which the weight of the baby is recorded, together with name, date of birth and other vital statistics and she is urged to attend the consultations regularly with the baby and to bring the card on which the weight of the baby is written each time.

In this way a record is kept of each baby's progress and any departure from normal is quickly detected and the diet regulated in accordance with the individual needs.

In case of any trouble arising from nutritional disturbances caused by improper feeding, the mother is given explicit directions as to how to regulate the child's diet and is also given pamphlets issued by the health department, giving general rules for the same.

If a baby is found to be suffering from any disease the case is referred to the family physician, hospital or dispensary for treatment. In such a case the mother is given a card from the consultation station, stating that the child is sick.

Only children under three years are taken at the consultations, older children being sent to the free clinics or dispensaries.

The babies are reached through the district nurses, who act as advertising mediums, distributing the literature of the health department and telling mothers where the different consulting centres are located and inducing them to take their babies there.

The nurses maintained by the District Nursing Association for special baby work have been delegated to assist at the different consultations and to do the "follow up" work. The nurse goes into the homes to see that the physician's advice is being carried out, which is most essential to the success of this work.

The physicians in charge are specially trained and interested in the work for babies.

The physicians all give their services for the cause, and Mrs. Heath, chairman of the child hygiene committee of the Congress of Mothers and Secretary and Treasurer of the baby welfare committee, of which Dr. Burnett is chairman, has been unflagging in her work, which is also volunteer.

Mrs. Heath stated in answer to queries that the Congress of Mothers expected to open these free consultations all over the State, especially in the mill districts, where the need is the more urgent. And in order to leave the congress free to thus extend the scope of this work efforts have been made to interest other organizations to establish local stations.

The last consultation, established at the North End Dispensary, was the result of such efforts, the Providence Section Council of Jewish Women standing sponsor for this enterprise, which is being carried on in connection with their other work at the dispensary.

The work at Atwell's Avenue was undertaken at the request of Sprague House Association and it grew so rapidly there that it became necessary to hold two consultations a week. Consultations were opened afterward in Olneyville, at South Main Street and at old Branch Avenue school under the auspices of the Immigrant Educational Bureau.

The work continued to grow until it got beyond its original sponsors, Mrs. Heath consulted with Dr. Burnett and Miss Gardner, superintendent of the District Nurses, and it was decided to take steps to bring together all the agencies interested and to formulate uniform rules for the use and guidance of all the consultations.

So in October last representatives from seven leading organizations, the Society for

Organized Charity, District Nursing Association, Providence Day Nursery Association, Rhode Island Congress of Mothers, Sprague House Association, Immigrant Educational Bureau and the City Health Department met and formed a baby welfare committee to have charge of all the free consultations for babies in Providence.

Already the beneficent effects of these efforts to save the babies is being felt all over the city and is in line with the movement for "Better Babies," which is engaging the attention of philanthropists and social workers throughout the United States.

In the literature distributed to the mothers is the following list of "Don'ts" which have been found of most help in this campaign for "Better Babies":

Don't feed the baby too often or too much.

Don't let him be over 20 minutes at the breast or bottle at one feeding.

Don't let him have an empty bottle to suck.

Don't give him a pacifier, mother's comfort or any such device for keeping him quiet. He will not need them if properly cared for and fed.

Don't let him suck his thumb. It spoils the shape of the mouth.

Don't let him go even a day without a drink of water. Give a teaspoonful occasionally.

Don't let him sit on the floor on cold days, especially if there is no carpet, unless there is a blanket or pad under him.

Don't let him sit in front of an open window, with the air blowing on him.

Don't let him sit in a draft between open window and door.

Don't let him play with matches, pins, scissors or sharp pointed objects.

Don't urge him to stand on his feet too young. If you do he may become bow-legged.

Don't give him solid food before one year, and then sparingly.

Don't give him candy, chocolate or sweet things.

Don't let him lie in a wet napkin.

Don't let hands and feet get cold.

Don't let the nose get clogged up.

Don't give him tea or coffee, beer, whiskey, gin or any drink containing alcohol.

Don't give medicine or drugs without the doctor's advice.

Don't let him stay up all hours of the night. Undress and put him to bed promptly at 6 o'clock.

Don't pick him up every time he cries.

Don't walk the floor with him.

Don't let anyone kiss the baby. Much disease is spread in this way.

Don't handle him too much; it is bad for him.

Don't pin band or diaper too tight, as it may cause deformity, and often is the cause of vomiting.

## TEXAS

### TEXAS FIFTH CHILD-WELFARE CONFERENCE.

The Fifth Child-Welfare Conference of the Texas Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations was held in the auditorium of the magnificent new High School in Fort Worth.

Upon arriving at the place of meeting the delegates were made to feel at once that they were surrounded by sympathetic atmosphere and this fact was more and more evident as the business of the conference proceeded.

The city of Fort Worth was a pioneer in the movement to bring into closer and more sympathetic relations the home and the school through organizations composed of both parents and teachers, and the Mothers' Club movement in Fort Worth antedated by several years the movement in the State.

The body was most cordially welcomed on behalf of the city schools and the Mothers' Council of Fort Worth.

There was general regret on account of the absence of the organizer and first president of the Texas Congress, Mrs. J. N. Porter, who was unavoidably detained in a western State.

The absence of the Honorary Vice-President, Miss M. Eleanor Brackenridge, of San Antonio, who was prevented by illness from being present, was also noted with regret. Telegrams of greeting and appreciation were sent both of these faithful workers—foster mothers of the organization.

Miss Brackenridge sent her report as Chairman of the Legislative Committee, and recommended continued efforts in behalf of the following measures: Raising the age of protection of girls to 18 years; paid probation officers of both sexes and proper places of detention of delinquent children; women on the police force in every city for the protection of women and the young of both sexes; and a State Child-Welfare Commission.

The Legislative Committee, through the personal efforts of the Vice-Chairman, Mrs. R. H. Ward, of Houston, aided in securing the passage by the last legislature of a law giving to married women the right to control their separate property.

Another faithful officer who was sadly missed and often referred to during the meetings was the State Treasurer, Mrs. George Routledge, of El Paso, who was detained at home because of illness, but whose heart was cheered by a message at the close of the conference informing her of a financial plan which the conference had evolved and set in motion assuring the wider extension of the work of the Congress through the organizing of clubs during the coming year. A field worker or organizer is expected to begin regular and continued work in the near future.

The chairmen of standing committees, nearly all of whom were in attendance, in addition to their reports for the year, gave illuminating addresses upon the possibilities of their departments.

Prominent speakers who delivered addresses at the evening meetings were: Dr. A. Caswell Ellis, Dr. J. Carlton Bell and Prof. Chas. S. Potts, all of the State University; Dr. W. B. Bizzell, President, and Miss Cora Weimer, of the College of Industrial Arts for Young Women; Dr. Theo. Hull of the State Society on Social Hygiene; Hon. Patrick Henry, Representative to the Texas Legislature.

The Conference was presided over by Mrs. Chalmers W. Hutchison, who, with the other officers, according to the revised constitution, hold over until the annual meeting of 1914.

## UTAH

Mrs. John E. Dooly, the newly elected President of the Utah Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teachers Associations, is a native of the State of Wisconsin. Before her marriage she was a most efficient supervisor of writing in the schools of Salt Lake City.

Mrs. Dooly's practical experience in the schools has given her unusual influence in school circles. Also the name she bears brings especial consideration from the fact that John E. Dooly was one of the most devoted School Board members in this or any other city. A man of wealth and great efficiency, he gave his time and interest unsparingly for the benefit of the public school system. Eleven school buildings were erected under his personal supervision and stand as a monument to his disinterested service.

Mrs. Dooly is also a business woman of acknowledged ability and the Congress is fortunate in securing her as its leader. The union of home and school in Utah is sure to receive a great impetus in the near future.



# Fifth National Congress on the Welfare of the Child, Muskogee, Oklahoma, August 20 to 23, 1914

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF MOTHERS AND PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS OF  
COLORED WOMEN OFFICERS.

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Editor, Mrs. R. C. Baughman Palestine,  
Tex. Club books, ten cents.

Chairman Membership Committee: Mrs.  
E. L. D. Conner, Mumford, Tex.

Send ten cents per member with reports  
to your State Chairman of Membership  
Committee and the State Treasurer will  
forward five cents per member to Mrs.  
E. L. D. Conner.

## Mother-Love

In the night-time I heard a woman's  
voice,  
Praying, "Oh, God! give me a child."  
She knew that in her blood was taint  
of death,  
That unruled passions lurked within  
her heart;  
She saw that by her door there hourly  
passed  
Children heart-hungry for a mother's  
love;  
And yet, with blinded eyes and blinded  
soul,  
She dared to pray, "Give me a child!"

Again I heard a woman's voice in  
prayer:  
"Oh, God!" (the words came fraught  
with pain),  
"I ask not for a child of my own  
flesh;  
I know my body's weakness and my  
soul's deep sin:  
I only ask that thou wilt grant to me  
One of these needy ones who pass my  
door.  
A human life is such a precious thing  
I dare not help create; oh, let me help  
to save!"

ESTELLA DOWNING

# THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON THE WELFARE OF THE CHILD

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

## NATIONAL CONGRESS OF MOTHERS AND PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS

906 LOAN AND TRUST BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D.C.

APRIL 22-27, 1914

HEADQUARTERS, "HOTEL RALEIGH"



### INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE.

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MRS. D. N. FURNAJIEFF, Sofia, Bulgaria.

And Officers of National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations

Parents, Teachers, Clergymen, Statesmen of every Nation, the welfare of the children of to-day is in your keeping. Child nurture is the greatest of all sciences. The nurture of childhood in the light of science will raise the standards of the race. To equip all children to do their work in the world better than it has been done before is the most far-reaching work for fathers, mothers, teachers and statesmen of every nation.

### RULES GOVERNING MEMBERSHIP AND REPRESENTATION.

Mothers' Circles and Parent-Teacher Associations pay per capita dues of ten cents. The representation for such associations is the president and one representative for fifty members, and one representative additional for each hundred members thereafter. Other organizations approved by the Congress may affiliate by payment of three dollars a year for clubs of less than a hundred members, or five dollars a year for those having over a hundred members. Such organizations are entitled to send one delegate to the Congress.

Associate members pay \$3.00. They are entitled to reserved seats and to the privileges of the floor upon all subjects except those of the administration of the Congress.

International, Governors' and Mayors' delegates will have reserved seats, participate in discussion of the questions of child-welfare to be considered at the Congress and vote on the measures for child-welfare recommended by the Congress.